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Vol. XVI. No. 1
JANUARY, 1912



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Some Neglected Varieties

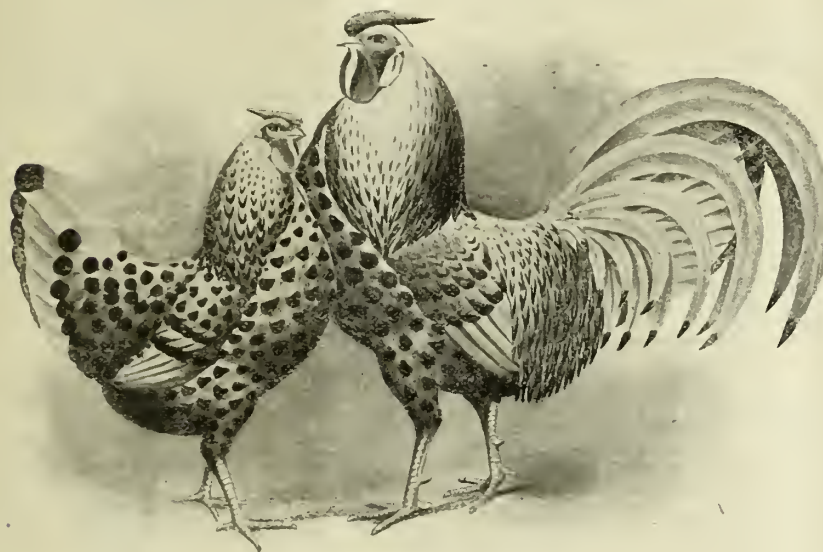
By PLUMMER McCULLOUGH

We have today in our American Standard of Perfection a number of varieties that are little heard of. Varieties that seem to be on the back slide, and varieties that are heard or seen but very little of. Take for instance the Black Wyandottes. They have been a standard variety for many years and still they are very seldom seen advertised or exhibited. In fact, there are quite a good many poultrymen who have bred poultry for a number of years that hardly know there are Black

would rather give a trial than Black Wyandottes. It is true, however, that American people have a prejudice against black fowls.

They have never become so popular as varieties of other colors, with a few exceptions.

The Black Leghorns are bred but very little in this country, and as the Leghorns are used very little as a market fowl and almost exclusively as an egg producer, the color should not interfere with their popularity, but it



Silver Spangled Hamburgs

Wyandottes. Now, why is it that the Black Wyandottes are not more popular today? In shape they are exactly the same as the other standard varieties of Wyandottes, which is one of the best shaped breeds we have for market purposes. Their legs and feet are black, shading into yellow or willow. Their skin is yellow, which is the best color for the American markets. Is it simply because they are black that makes them unpopular. Well, I believe that has much to do with it, but not all by any means. It rather seems to me that they do not have real live men behind them. If some man like U. R. Fishel, E. B. Thompson, A. C. Hawkins or a Kellerstrass had taken up Black Wyandottes they would have held a different place in the poultry world from what they do today. They have not been kept before the public enough. Not exhibited at the poultry shows enough. Not advertised in the poultry journals enough, and the result is they are today the most unpopular variety of Wyandottes in the Standard. They are not illustrated in the Standard when every other variety of Wyandottes is illustrated. Friends, this should not be. If the Black Wyandotte Breeders had attended the A. P. A. meeting in force, and insisted that their variety was entitled to be illustrated if the newly admitted varieties were, they would have got the illustrations, in my opinion. There is really no more beautiful variety of fowls in the Wyandotte family than the blacks when they are bred true to Standard requirements. They are splendid layers and good plump, market fowls, and if I was to discontinue the breeding of White Rocks today there is no variety in the American class that I

must as there are very few of them advertised today and I don't know of a single egg farm stocked with Black Leghorns.

Black Langshans are another black variety that has not as prominent a place in the varieties of poultry as it should have.

I. K. Felch says that the Light Brahmas are the best of the Asiatic varieties. I will not argue the matter with him at all as he knows much more about them than I do, but if there is a second best it is the Black Langshans. They are bred much more in this country than either Black Wyandottes or Leghorns, but still I think they are not as popular as they should be. In England they are bred quite extensively and while they are not the equal of American bred birds in type and beauty, they are a very graceful and lordly fowl. They are said to be the very best of winter layers and that is what we all want. As a market fowl they are good, but do not mature as quickly as some of the American varieties. The White Langshans are not bred much in America. We see some shown at a few shows each year, but never see them advertised. In nearly every other breed the white are always more prominent than the blacks, but such is not the case with Langshans, as the blacks are much more popular than the whites. This shows that the color of plumage does not always make a variety popular. If some good, live, hustling breeder would take hold of the Langshans today and push them as many other varieties are being pushed, there will be good money in it for him. Dark Brahmas are another addition to the unpopular varieties of Standard-bred fowls, and it is too bad

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for they are truly a grand old variety. It may be true that they are more of a fancier's fowl, but I have had sent to me by a Southern breeder some grand egg records of Dark Brahmas, and as to beauty no one can question that they are one of the most beautiful of the Asiatic class.

It is not because Dark Brahmas are not a good fowl that they are not bred more extensively, but it is because some of the newer varieties have crowded them out. Then the worst part of it is that the newer varieties are very often their inferiors, both as to utility and beauty. Friends, if you want a variety that is not commonly raised in your section, just try Dark Brahmas, and if you give them a fair chance I don't believe you will be disappointed.

Another variety that has fallen from the ranks is the good old American Dominiques, one of the very best of American breeds. The great popularity of the Barred Rock has no doubt done much to keep down the Dominiques.

There is now some talk of a Rose Comb-Barred Rock and of Barred Wyandottes. If any one wants to put some work on a rose-combed barred variety let them take up the good old Dominique, and they will have a fowl worth keeping. It is the worst kind of foolishness for any one to think of originating a Rose Comb, Barred Rocks or a Barred Wyandotte when we already have the Dominique,

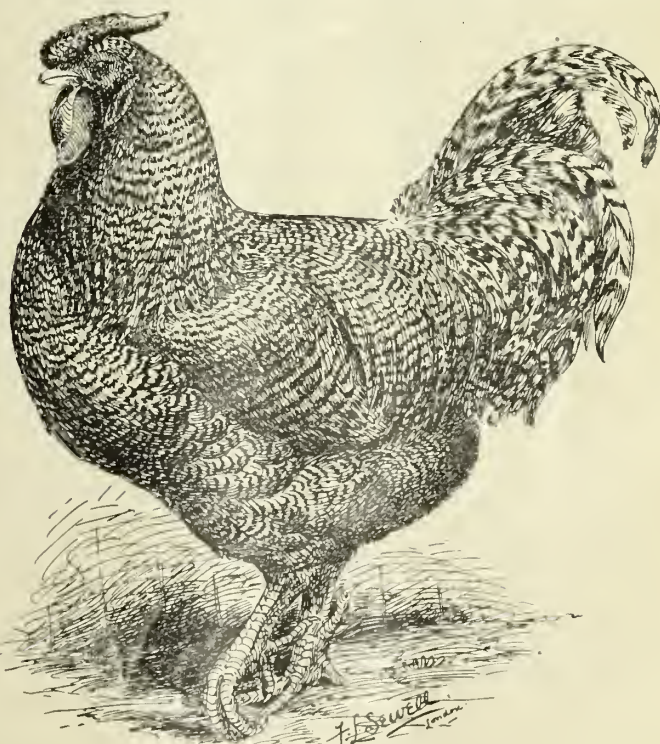
which is the oldest, perhaps, of the American breeds of today. The Dominique is a medium-sized fowl, the standard weights being not far from Wyandottes. They are different shaped from the Wyandottes. Being more like Hamburgs in shape only much more blocky and much heavier.

While the Standard color and barring is required to be the same as for Barred Rocks, it is not near so narrow in barring and is much more open. The comb is rose, something like that of the Rose Comb Leghorn. In every way they are an attractive fowl, and it is truly a pity that they are not one of our most popular varieties, as they should be. They come pretty near filling the bill as a general purpose fowl, being splendid layers and very good market fowls. I would much rather risk Dominiques if I was starting in pure-bred poultry again than I would many of the new varieties.

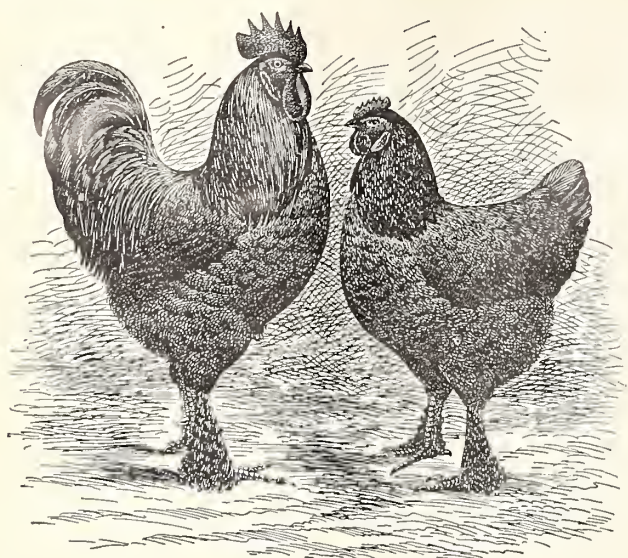
They are more reliable and no doubt better utility fowls. It is time for Dominique breeders to wake up and put their good old breed to the front or it will soon be lost and forgotten. This must not be.

The English Red Cap is a variety that is seldom seen in the show room or advertised in the poultry journals, but they are one of the best egg producers we have. We knew of a lady who kept

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The six varieties of Hamburgs are very little bred in this country any more by the farmers or utility poultrymen. Even in the fanciers' yards, they are not so plentiful as years ago. Some say they are hard to raise, which may be true, but I feel confident that this could be largely overcome by correct feeding and careful selection of the healthiest and most vigorous birds for breeding purposes. For beauty there is not a breed of fowls anywhere that excels the Hamburgs. We have them in white and black, silver and golden spangled, and silver and golden pencilled. The markings of the different varieties are beautiful and they breed remarkably true to color and type. Once a Hamburg always a Hamburg. The Hamburg is very alert and has a shape of its own that is very beautiful indeed. Just why they are not more popular I can not say. My father kept Hamburgs twenty years ago, and I had an uncle who also bred them for a number of years. So you see I am quite familiar with them. If there are any better layers than Hamburgs I have not found them. I. K. Felch says there is no hen on earth that will lay more eggs than the Golden Spangled Hamburgs, and I think the same is true of the other varieties of the breed. I believe if some of the people who are so anxious to make a show in the poultry world would take up the Hamburgs and shove them good and hard, there is a barrel of money for them. A minister who bred Hamburgs told me a couple of years ago that he could not begin to supply the demand for them. Then why are they not bred more? The only conclusion I can come to is that they have been sadly neglected and breeders have allowed them to be crowded down and out. There are a number of other varieties that I might mention, among them the Silver and Golden Wyandottes, and I might say right here that the Silver-Pencilled

Wyandottes and Silver-Pencilled Rocks are not gaining much in popularity. If the breeders of these varieties don't wake up they will find their varieties among some of the ones at the very bottom of the ladder. How many breeders do we see advertising these varieties right now? Not many, I assure you. The same is true of the golden and silvers. They are splendid varieties, but have fallen to the rear. The question now arises, How shall we bring these varieties back to popular favor again? First I would say by culling the stock closely and keeping nothing but the very best of them for breeders. This has not been done carefully in the past and it has done much to give these varieties a set-back. Many of the so-called "hucksters" follow up the fall fairs and carry a lot of these unpopular varieties to win the premium money. There is little or no competition in these varieties and most any old thing will do for them to show. They show many poor types of the breeds and this disgusts many of the visitors with the breed, who might take an interest in them if they could see some real good specimens of these old breeds. Next, the breeders of these old varieties should exhibit more. Show your birds at every show and fair within reach and make people take notice. Many of our winter shows do not have a single entry of some of the varieties I have mentioned. You must overcome this if you want to make your breed boom. Show them, and show them often. Advertise them liberally in the poultry journals. Every bird you send out is helping to make them more popular, providing, of course, they are good specimens of the breed and you can not afford to send out any other. Have photographs taken of your winners, and have them printed in the poultry journals. Have their egg records printed. Write articles about them for the poultry journals. Advertise them in every shape and form. Keep everlastingly at it. Friends, you must do these things or your varieties will be at the bottom forever. American people have gone crazy over new varieties. Now, you must make them crazy about your old varieties. It is time for you fellows to wake up. I hope you will do so and push these old varieties to the front where they should be. We have enough varieties now, what we need is to take better care of what we have and it is my sincere wish that we do so.

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TIMELY TOPICS

(By Plummer McCullough, Mercer, Pa.)

The show season is in full blast and we will hear many complaints as to the judging. Some of these complaints are possibly just, but many of them are not. Sometimes I think that the editors of poultry journals are the worst kickers the judges have. Many a time have we read the account of some show as reported by the editor and in describing the birds of some particular class he would write: "The third prize cockerel should have been first by all means." Or, perhaps, he would write, "The second placed bird was a much better bird than the first. The best pullet in the class was unplaced," etc.

Now, friends, this may be all right for an editor or reporter to "rejudge" a show with his pen, but in my opinion it is all wrong. The judge that passes on a class and handles every specimen, noting their under color, combs, eyes, and every little thing of importance, should know about what bird should be placed first and what one second. Judges, of course, make some terrible blunders, but not half as many as some of their critics. You can not always tell which is the best bird by looking at it when it is standing in the exhibition coop.

It may have faulty under-color. It may have a few off-colored feathers in wings that you could not notice without handling it, but the judge notices these defects because he handles every specimen. Let us then not be too ready to criticize the judge, even if his views are not always our own. The judge has no easy task as he must judge the birds and not their owners.

The Editor of Poultry Review says, "No matter how valuable a strain of fowl you have it is the height of folly to put into your breeding pens the runts of your flock, with the idea that they may develop into something worth while during the winter. If they are not what they ought to be when five or six months old, they never will be satisfactory as breeders, and no one who values the future worth of his stock can afford to use anything less than the best.

"Better begin the winter with half the number desired than to fill your breeding pens with inferior fowls." This is good sound advice, and if people would put it in practice more there would be less culls raised each year. Another mistake many people make is the selling off of their best birds because they have been offered a good price for them. Keep your best birds for your own breeding pens and don't part with them for anybody's money, unless you can afford to buy better ones for yourself.

In the National Stockman and Farmer is an interesting article which says: "Mr. A. E. Henry, who has been in charge of an egg-laying competition in Australia, says, 'To come to the heart of the matter at once I unhesitatingly say that under ordinary conditions and with a discriminating use of the ordinary foods used by breeders, it is quite impossible to over-feed laying hens if a full egg basket is the object in view. This is not merely an idle statement but a proven fact. The chief reason that such prolific production has been attained at some of the egg-laying competitions, is that the heavy feeding system has been in vogue. But not only at these competitions but wherever it has been tried, the full

and plenty plan has been successful. On many occasions I have seen a flock of hens and pullets apparently in perfect health, but upon inquiry found that the egg yield was far from satisfactory. In nearly every case it was found that the birds had been fed according to the owner's judgment as to the amount of food given, leaving the hens' appetite to count for nothing. In each instance it was recommended that the hens be given all they would eat, and where this was acted upon a decided increase in egg production took place inside of a fortnight."

Whether this plan would work with everyone or not, I am unable to say, but I admit that there is some truth in it.

We very seldom find a man who over-feeds his hens. On the other hand I find dozens who under-feed. When we do see a case of over-feeding it is usually the result of feeding improper foods or feeding them in an improper way, and not too much food.

If the hens are made to work in a deep litter for their grain food and given a dry mash, which is kept before them constantly, I think there is little danger of over-feeding.

In the Woman's Department of American Poultry Advocate, Mrs. Irving F. Rice expresses the opinion that the yarding of Leghorn cockerels did not pay out with them. Mrs. Rice says, in part: "We tried yarding the cockerels, this fall, when they were separated from the pullets, but it did not work well with us. They had good large, roomy yards with plenty of shade and also plenty of apples, which would fall on the ground, and we are not sure but that may account for their condition. They simply ate those apples and stood around the fence until they were getting poor, so at last, in desperation, we gave them their liberty again, yarding some of the pullets in their stead. They at once picked up and seemed to be themselves again, while the yarding did not seem to disturb the pullets at all. I believe the pullets will stand confinement much better than the cockerels, and so from this on, when the cockerels must be separated it will be the pullets that will be taken, and the cockerels left at their liberty as long as possible." Mrs. Rice's article again brings to my mind the question, "What is the value of apples as poultry food?" Personally I have never seen this question answered. Apples are eaten greedily by fowls and no doubt are of some value, but of how much value are they? They contain a large amount of water and would, I judge, serve partly as a green food. They are a healthy fruit for the human family, and why not for poultry? Possibly they are, but Mrs. Rice seems to think not. I doubt very much whether the apples had much to do with the cockerels getting poor. I would rather think it was the change from free range to confinement. Mrs. Rice does not state how they were fed and possibly the feed was not right. I have fed apples to fowls lots of times, but never had any bad results. Just how much good they did I do not know. Neither do I know whether it would pay one to buy apples for poultry feed. If any one has experimented along this line we would enjoy reading it in the columns of The Feather.

Mrs. Rice also warns the readers of

the Advocate against keeping late moulting hens for breeders. She says they will prove to be breeders of late moulters, which is against winter egg production. This is again news to us, as we were of the opinion that late moulting was mostly caused by the care and feed more than from a late moulting strain.

However, Mrs. Rice is a very successful breeder of Leghorns and her advice is at least worth a trial.

That the hopper method of rearing young stock is successful many of my readers will agree. We now learn that Mr. U. R. Fishel, the most successful White Rock breeder in the world, practices hopper feeding with his young stock. Mr. Fishel keeps two hoppers in each colony house—one filled with mixed grains and another with dry mash. His dry mash is the same as he feeds to matured stock and is made as follows: Two hundred pounds wheat bran, fifty pounds corn meal, one hundred pounds shredded wheat waste, fifty pounds rolled oats, fifty pounds molasses alfalfa meal, ten pounds granulated charcoal and forty pounds of meat scrap. We are glad to give this to our readers, as we can bank on anything that Fishel uses being O. K. We have recently received his new catalogue and it will pay any one to send him 25 cents for a copy as it has valuable articles on feeding, brooding, conditioning for show room, etc. Send for a copy and mention The Feather when writing.

We have been informed that this catalogue cost Mr. Fishel \$5,000. Surely this poultry business is growing and not yet overdone when men can afford to pay this amount for a catalogue.

W. H. Davenport, in the Poultry Item, says that he believes the Barred Rock gives promise of becoming a useful breed. He also says, "The Barred Rock is a new breed produced by crossing the Dominique with a large variety with a single comb," etc.

My, but this will tickle Barred Rock breeders. Charley Latham will now leap for joy. Bradley Bros., A. C. Hawkins, E. B. Thompson and all the other Barred Rock cranks will have to buy new and larger hats. Then think of the Barred Rock becoming a new breed. This I suppose will happen when they all settle down to the single mating system and while they are thus scrapping the White Rocks will pass them in the race for superiority at a 2:20 trot.

In the National Poultry Magazine, C. F. Townsend informs an inquirer that he has just built a big exhibition and testing house to be used for the tests for 1912. We have been wondering for some time why the 1911 tests were not given to the poultry journals for publication, but as I see that Mr. Townsend has written a new book entitled "Poultry Secrets Revealed," I suppose the account of the tests is in the book, and we will be obliged to pay a dollar if we read the book. Mr. Townsend is, or at least was, President of the National Poultry Association. I hear very little of the association any more, but do hear considerable about the "test pens." No doubt these "test pens" have proven a good advertisement for Mr. Townsend and have helped him sell many fine breeders at a top price.

In speaking of exhibiting birds D. Lincoln Orr says in Reliable Poultry Journal, "If you can not take a licking gracefully, then my advice is to keep your birds at home. Another personage that one meets in the show room is the fellow that has better birds at home. Really this is the most disgusting fellow I can think of, and the

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old saying of 'put up or shut up' is appropriate, and I trust I shall never meet him again. He has no place in the sporting element, no place in the business side of showing, and he is either a coward or a miser, so shun him."

D. Walter Hawk, in the Poultry Item, has a lengthy article on "Comparison vs. Score Card Judging." Mr. Hawk has, he thinks, a new idea that would work out well. He proposes to have the first and second prize birds judged by comparison, and the third and fourth class by score card. He says the amateur has nothing to show him where his birds were defective and by the score card system he can learn why his birds did not win, and in what sections they are lacking in standard requirements. Now, Mr. Hawk's idea may look well in print, but I don't believe it will ever be put in practice in the show room. The score card system has been tried for years and has been found wanting. I can not see of what great value the score card is as an educator, when no two judges give a bird the same score, and even the same judge can hardly score the same bird twice alike. A writer in Successful Poultry Journal writes, "The score card is all right in the hands of competent judges and there should be no others." That is true in a sense. In the sense that we should not have incompetent judges. But I know of men who have bred and exhibited poultry their lifetime and they could not score a bird correctly to save their lives. Yet I know that some of these very fellows are good judges. Now, brother, how do you account for that?

Pennsylvania is to have another poultry journal. F. W. Delancy has resigned as editor of the Poultry Item, and has purchased the Poultry Fancier, which paper he will move to Sellersville, Pa. This will make at least five poultry publications for the Keystone State.

Uncle Isaac Felch comes out strong for the single mating system of Barred Rocks in R. P. J. This is good. Mr. Felch usually knows what he is writing about and his experience should be helpful to others if heeded.

C. F. Townsend warns beginners to have nothing to do with any "system" men. Still we find a full page ad of a "system" where \$25,000 was claimed to be made from half an acre of land in the same journal that Mr. Townsend writes for.

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From the pen of J. H. Drevendstedt we read that there is likely to be a boom of the Sussex Fowl in this country. Quite a number of them are being imported into this country and breeders of this new variety say there is a great demand for them. The light Sussex Fowl is much like our Columbian Plymouth Rocks, and the dark Sussex resembles the R. I. Reds.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Graves, who are leading breeders of White Rocks and Wyandottes, are very careful to feed for white plumage as well as mate for it, says C. W. Whitney in American Poultry Advocate. They feed no yellow corn or any other food that they think would injure the color of plumage.

Don't be afraid to let a little fresh air in your poultry house. Take out a window and leave it out. If you are afraid of this then put in a muslin window so you can have fresh pure air at all times in the poultry houses. You never saw a chicken catch cold or take roup when roosting in the trees, did you? I never did. I have seen them freeze their combs, but not catch cold. Then why do they catch cold so easily in a warm poultry house? Simply because it is unnatural. The tree is the natural place for a fowl to roost. It has pure air and lots of room. Now we don't believe in "housing" poultry in the tree tops all winter, but we do believe in getting as close to nature as we can by having pure air in the poultry houses and giving the birds plenty of room. Over-crowding is one of the greatest evils of the day with poultrymen, and is the cause of many cases of roup and other disease.

If fresh air is good for fowls, why not for the human family? Well, it is and we are losing a great deal by not making more use of pure air in our sleeping rooms. Try having your bedroom window up a little at nights and breathe the air as pure as God makes it.

Infertile Eggs Keep Best

A large part of the heavy loss from bad eggs can be obviated by the production of infertile eggs. This has been demonstrated beyond a doubt by the investigations concerning the improvement of the farm egg which during the past two years have been conducted in the Middle West by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture.

Secretary Wilson of the Department of Agriculture estimates that between the producer and the consumer there is an annual loss of \$45,000,000 in the egg crop of the United States, the greater portion of which falls on the farmer, who is by far the largest producer. Of this enormous loss, about one-third, or \$15,000,000, is caused by heat which develops the embryo of the fertile egg, causing what is known to the trade as a "blood ring." As it is impossible to produce a "blood ring" in an infertile egg, such an egg will stand a higher degree of temperature without serious deterioration than will a fertile egg.

The Secretary says that if farmers and others engaged in the production of eggs would market their male birds as soon as the hatching season is over, a large saving would be made, as practically every infertile egg would grade a first or second if clean and promptly marketed. No more simple or efficient method for the improvement of the egg supply of the country could be adopted than the production of infertile eggs.

Scientific Feeding for Eggs

Conducted by E. W. GOOD, Richmond, Ind.

The above is supposed to be a "Question and Answer" Department, limited to egg production. There is much more to this subject than the average poultryman recognizes. A large part of poultry culture rests upon correct or scientific feeding. It is "not so much the breed as it is the feed" that produces eggs. A vigorous, well-developed fowl, no matter what kind (just so it is a hen) will produce an abundance of eggs, providing care and feed receive the proper attention. Let us get together, ladies and gentleman, and learn more about this question. I am learning more about it daily. What are you doing? Write and let me know. Maybe we can become mutually benefited. Remember these columns are open to us. Let us show our appreciation by making more use of them. Balancing feeds is my specialty. I am governed by chemical analysis, and stand ready to tell you how to feed, if you send me what you want to feed. I have but two correspondents to answer for the month of January.

Dear Sir: I am keeping White Orpingtons, and do you think this is a good dry mash:

Wheat bran	part	1/4
Wheat middlings	part	1/4
Corn meal	part	1/4
Beef scraps	per cent	5
Oil meal	per cent	5
Gluten meal	parts	10
or		
Bran	part	1
Middlings	part	1
Ground oats	part	1
Gluten meal	part	1
Oil meal	part	1
Beef scraps	part	1
Corn meal	part	1

And this for grain mixture:

Wheat	part	1/2
Corn and cracked corn	part	1/4
Barley	part	1/4

At present they have free range, but soon will be confined, and then intend to feed sprouted oats for green feed.

A. B. C.

Towanda, Pa.

This gentleman has made a fine green food selection. Give your fowls

all they can eat of it. Evidently you want the above combination of feeds examined for correctness. I have done so and find the first group of ground stuff and whole grain combined to have an average nutritive ratio of 1:5.8. Of course, this is too wide or fattening for even winter feeding. I would not even recommend it for Manitoba winters. If you will keep your fowls comfortably warm, 1:5 is wide enough. The second group connected with whole grain contains a ratio of 1:4.1. This would be too narrow for winter feeding. You might stuff your fowls on this ration daily and they would appear starved.

Right here it might be well to remark that the ratio should be governed by the temperature of the house. Colder the house, wider the ration; warmer the house, the narrower.

Dear Sir: Since reading your interesting article in the Feather, I have decided to let you figure a ration from the feeds that I have at hand. I am raising White Leghorns and the climate is very cold. Would like to get a good winter egg ration. I have a good supply of the following feeds:

	Pounds.
Ground barley	87
Whole oats	19
Wheat bran	6
Wheat middlings	13
Beef scraps	7
Sugar beets	56

A. L. H.

Lewiston, Mont.

The above calls for about:

Oats	parts	1
Sugar beets	parts	3
Ground feed	parts	5 1/2

I call that rather a poor ration for such a cold place. If you will add 40 pounds of corn and 6 pounds more beef scraps to the formula it will be much improved.

I want to thank these gentlemen for "breaking the ice" between Feather readers and myself. Who'll be the next?

USE REEVE'S NATURAL CHICK FEED and never lose a chick. Ask your dealer or write CHAS. H. REEVE, 187 Washington St., New York, N. Y.

Dirty Eggs on the Farm

While there are a few egg producers who take the best of care of their product, the average farmer considers the eggs produced on the farm a by-product and makes very little provision for their care, aside from gathering them. A large loss is caused by dirty eggs, the number being enormous, and according to the estimate of Secretary Wilson of the Department of Agriculture, this money loss to the farmers in the United States amounts to about \$5,000,000 annually.

This loss is very largely brought about by not gathering the eggs often enough. In wet weather more dirty eggs are found than at any other time. This is caused by the fact that the hen's feet are often covered with mud or other filth, and in going on the nest to lay she soils the eggs already in the nest.

An insufficient number of nests is often the cause of many of the dirty eggs found. Eggs are laid on the ground and around the hay and straw stacks, and becoming stained, are classed as "dirties." Again, when too many eggs are allowed to remain in a nest some are broken and many of the others become smeared with broken yolks. This condition is often brought about by allowing the broody hens to use the same nests with the layers. On a farm where one nest to every four hens is provided and the nests are kept clean and well bedded, it is found that very few dirty eggs are produced.

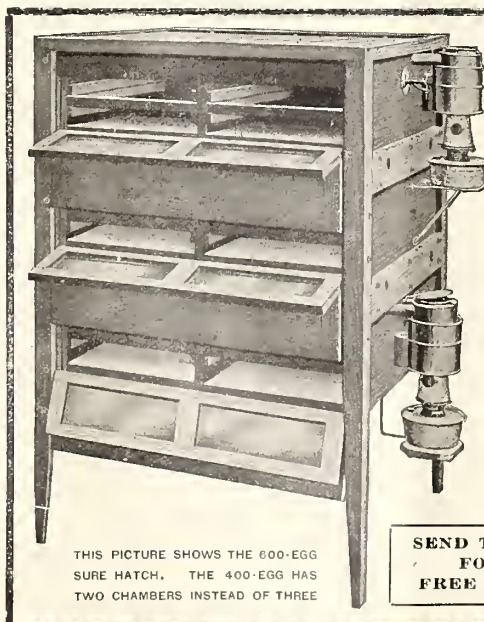
After gathering the eggs, care should be taken not to put them where they will become heated, or near oil, onions, or other vegetables, as they readily absorb odors.

Although dirty eggs may be perfectly fresh, they invariably sell as "seconds," and when but a few dirty eggs are mixed with an otherwise fresh, clean lot, they materially decrease the price of the clean eggs.

An Advertisement in

THE FEATHER

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Try a card in the next number and be convinced.



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Their method of construction makes them far superior to any other make of equal capacity. Look at the picture of the 600-egg machine on this page and note the economy of floor space; how they are built in sections, one above the other; each is heated with its own lamp and can be run separately from the others; can set 200, 400 or 600 eggs at a time—as you may happen to be fixed for eggs; no waste of heating any more space than necessary to take the number of eggs you want to set. Any of the chambers can be set any time without interfering with either of the others. Can be easily taken apart and re-assembled in a few minutes.

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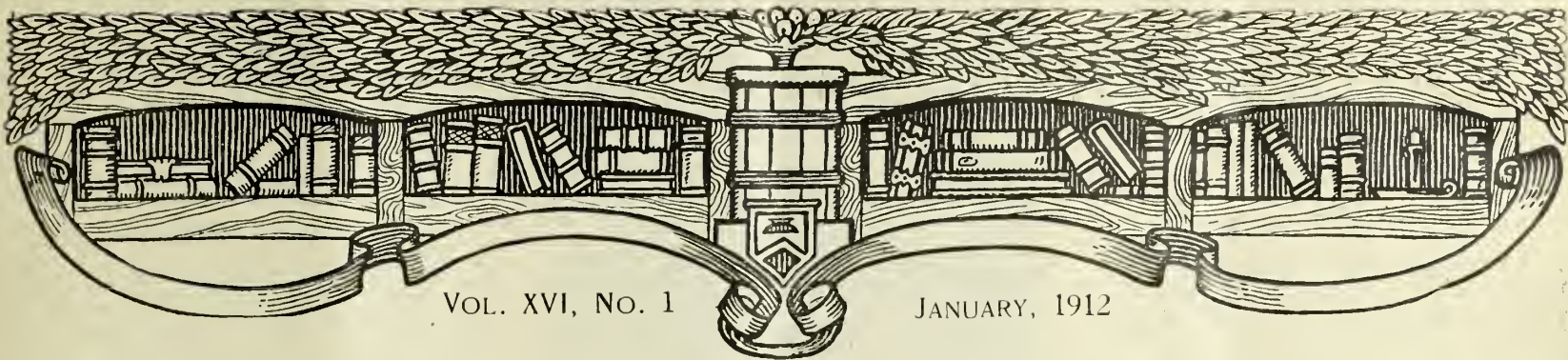
Running from 50 to 600-egg, enables us to fit out a beginner, or a city lot dweller, who may want only a few chicks, to the extensive breeder who hatches thousands of them. They are all built on the plans laid down by the U. S. Government and described in Bulletin No. 236. Send for our Catalogue and the Bulletin. Both sent free.

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FREMONT, NEBRASKA



Editorial Comment

The fresh egg is a rare article, and it is now selling at from 55 cents to 75 cents per dozen. At these prices there is a profit in raising eggs that should appeal to anyone in search of investment. Any market is a good one for fresh eggs, and the poultryman who is successful in producing the "fresh laid egg" has no cause of complaint, and his hens are a source of profit.

* * *

Secretary Wilson has a few interesting remarks on the "factors influencing quality in eggs," and the two systems in vogue in the egg trade. He says: "The system of marketing eggs in general use in the Middle West, known to the trade as the 'case-count' system, has proven detrimental to quality. Briefly, case-count buying consists of the payment of the fixed price which happens to be current at the time for each and every dozen which may be offered for sale, regardless of whether the eggs themselves are good, bad, or indifferent. The only requisite in most cases to consummate a sale is for each egg to have an intact shell. No more practical step can be taken in improving quality than to discard this system of buying and replace it by the one known to the trade as 'loss-off.' Where the 'loss-off' system is in use the eggs as bought are 'candled,' that is, subjected to a test which shows quite definitely their condition and quality. By this test it is possible to detect 'rots,' 'spots,' and other deteriorated eggs, such as shrunken, weak, watery, and heated eggs. In paying for eggs bought on this basis, the rots and usually the spots and blood rings are thrown out entirely, so that they become a dead loss to the person responsible for them. Such a classification and method of payment is a distinct step forward and results in a great improvement in the eggs."

* * *

Now, what's in an egg, anyhow?

* * *

Any old body will do any old thing at any old time.

* * *

Green food at this time of the year is one of the secrets of egg getting, and the better the supply of green foods, the better is the chance of getting the eggs. There are various kinds of green foods to be had, but none is better than sprouted oats for the fowls, none is more easily had. Green food is essential to poultry, and for a satisfying, economical green food, there is none to equal sprouted oats. Their tonic and food properties are beneficial and healthful, and supply the necessary elements for health and vigor. Try this system and try it faithfully, and we feel sure you will be fully convinced as to its merits.

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The February FEATHER

will contain a complete re-
port and list of awards
of the

WASHINGTON AND BALTIMORE SHOWS

DON'T MISS THIS NUMBER

There is every indication that the show of the Washington Poultry and Pigeon Association, to be held here this month, will be the best show ever held at the National Capital. The premium list contains the most elaborate classification in the poultry and pigeon classes and the prize money should attract exhibitors from all quarters. The list of specials is even better, and the association is to be congratulated on the generous cooperation of its merchant friends. There is a chance for everybody to win, and those having good birds can well afford to take this chance. The special exhibits can not fail in being attractive, as everything is being done to attract the public. The Maryland Agricultural College proposes to put up a display at this show that will long be remembered, and no expense is being spared to make it a winner in its class. Other displays of much merit are being arranged to show the arts and sciences of the poultry business, as well as the practical end of poultry raising. The show will be worth seeing, and the public is invited to be present when the doors are opened.

* * *

When the general roll is called, will you be there?

* * *

It is gratifying to note the progress of the Baltimore Show, and the promises this year seem to beat the record of previous ones. There is no reason in the world why Baltimore should not have a great show each year, as it has the talent, facilities, and breeders of the best class. The growth of the Baltimore Show has been very marked. Four years ago it was a comparatively small one, held in the old Fifth Regiment Armory, over Richmond Market. Last year at the New Fifth Regiment Armory over 5,000 birds were on exhibition, and this year it is expected that the record will be beaten. Mr. Geo. O. Brown is its secretary, and he pretty nearly knows a thing or two about poultry shows and how to run them.

* * *

At this season of the year, particular attention should be paid to the general condition and contentment of the birds. Comfortable houses, free from draughts and dampness, should be your first thought. The housing of fowls in winter is no easy task, and the more careful one is the better will be the results. Feeding is another item of interest, and only those foods should be used that are suited to the season and its requirements. Careful feeding and proper housing will prove a source of profit, as well as pleasure, if carried out in detail. Don't neglect anything that is conducive to success, and you will reap your rewards in eggs and strong, healthy chicks.

Cooperation in Poultry Work

By MICHAEL K. BOYER, Hammonton, N. J.

IT is quoted that Congressman Dawson, of Iowa, in the House, paid these words of tribute to the American hen: "Poets may sing of the glory of the eagle and artisans may paint the beauties of birds of plumage, but the modest American hen is entitled to a tribute for her industry, her usefulness and her productivity. The American hen can produce wealth equal to the capital stock of all the banks of the New York Clearing House in three months and have a week to spare. In less than sixty days she can equal the total production of all the gold mines in the United States. The United States proudly boasts of its enormous production of pig iron, by far the greatest of any country in the world, and yet the American hen produces as much in six months as all the iron mines in the country produce in a year. In one year and ten months she could pay off the interest-bearing debt of the United States."

It is estimated that the 1909 production of poultry and eggs in this country reached a value of \$625,000,000, and that half of this value was in eggs. The authorities at Washington say that the poultry crop is greater than the wheat crop by \$100,000,000.

In the Umpqua Valley of Oregon, the Oakland Poultry Products Company was organized and incorporated by Portland capitalists. The company obtained a tract of land of 900 acres in the heart of the poultry center of the Northwest, which is declared to be particularly well adapted to poultry raising. It is the purpose of the Oakland Poultry Products Company to subdivide the farm into ten-acre tracts, and settlers will be urged to engage chiefly in poultry raising, as it is pointed out that larger returns are received from poultry products on a less initial investment than from any other farming activity. The company will organize an extensive selling agency and will take charge of the marketing of the products raised by the settlers.

Before the next hatching season the company will have in operation a 20,000 capacity incubator to supply the market with one-day-old chicks. It is also planned to rent compartments to persons who have eggs to be hatched. As soon as the enterprise is well under way the company announces that it will open branch stores in the large cities in the Northwest to handle the products for the trade demanding the highest class poultry and fresh guaranteed eggs.

Neither the writer nor the Feather wish to be understood as endorsing the company, as we have no further data beyond what is here given, but we give the information more to show a somewhat parallel ease where success has been reached.

Individual poultrymen, when they have a large supply of goods, and when the demand is greater in market than is the supply, can, to a certain extent, dictate and secure reasonably good prices. But when the individual has but a limited supply, and the market is already well furnished, he is apt to be disappointed in the returns. It is not so, however, with a body of men—and here is where cooperation comes in.

"Poultry trusts" are not advised on the part of



Michael K. Boyer

the producers, but the time is ripe for the poultrymen to get together and demand a fair price for their product.

There are no articles more staple, or more in everyday demand, than poultry and eggs. The moment there is a lack of shipments, up go the prices, but the middleman gets the most of this raise. If the poultrymen of a county, for instance, will form themselves into a club or association, pool their product and place it on the market as a body, there will be different results. The poultry farmer will get his proper share, and the middleman will have sufficient margin to live on. At the present day, or rather with the present system, the small poulturer receives about enough to meet the cost, while the middleman is able to ride in an automobile.

We do not favor disturbances in market, we do not ask poultrymen to be arbitrary, but we do say, that to the poultry farmer belongs not only the actual cost to produce, but a sufficient margin so that he can at least drive to town in a carriage other than the usual farm wagon.

We are living in an era when the farmer is better recognized than he has formerly been. Instead of continuing to be the butt end of jokes and the subject of cartoons, he is placed in the front ranks with other business men of importance. To a certain extent he is king. To him the world looks for its prosperity. Then if upon him is involved such an important mission, why should he not receive his just reward? What is true of the farmer is equally true of the poultryman. Both are hard working, honest business men, and they are annually furnishing the living and prosperity of the nation. They deserve what belongs to them,

and cooperation is the only way by which such results can be obtained.

The secret of success of trusts lies in the fact that the different interests combine. Knowing that "in union there is strength" they pull together. Now, while we are as a general thing opposed to trusts, we do admit that the general principle of combining and working together carries with it an important lesson. If the poultry men of the country will combine and form a "humanity trust" (pardon the term) they will realize a profit without making the consumer pay for it.

According to the plan of the several associations cited in this article, the goods are accumulated and sold in one lump at the highest possible price. This price is then proportioned to the producers in its proper ratio. In other words, the small man gets the same figure, according to size of shipment, as does the large man, but the consumer pays no more for his goods. This extra pay for the producer comes from the expense of maintaining the middleman. Such an object is well worth working for. Let us strive for our own success, but while in that effort let us guarantee to the consumer a high quality of goods with no additional cost. There are to be no tips.

The International Utility Poultry Association, of Buffalo, N. Y., was organized for service along these very lines. Its aim is the production of better utility poultry; better distribution of utility poultry products; creating a demand for poultry products raised by members of the association; to encourage the breeding of pure or crossbred birds in regard to utility, by breeding only from selected birds; to establish laying contests under proper management; to conduct utility poultry shows; to obtain the best advice for members relating to selections, breeding and raising utility poultry; to award prizes to members for the best and most economical method of packing and marketing poultry products.

Here we have, in this association, protection of the highest type for both the producer and the consumer. Cooperation in poultry affairs should mean not only a guarantee of increased profits for the producer, but a guarantee of quality without an increase of cost to the consumer. The International Utility Poultry Association is a step in the right direction.

In Framingham, Suffolk, England, a cooperative system has been devised for the distribution of eggs that has put money into the pockets of farmers of the district. Under this system great care is exercised in the selection of eggs for market. The stamp of the cooperative industry is a guarantee of quality, and ready sale is obtained at excellent prices for eggs having the stamp. Well-arranged places for distribution result in obtaining the highest prices, and the members of the concern, whether large or small producers, are flourishing in proportion to the output of their farms.

The report says that so well has the society succeeded in finding a profitable market for its eggs that, during March and April of this year, over 250,000 were sent out from that source alone and sold at good figures. As the membership is only about two hundred, this means that each member

sold an average of 500 eggs a month. The society requires that the size and quality of the eggs bearing its stamp shall be above suspicion. This policy has resulted in creating a confidence on the part of the purchasers that does more than anything else to promote good sales.

Each egg is to be of full value, and must weigh not less than two ounces. The majority of eggs now offered run well over that, so that seven to the pound is by no means an unusual weight. A deduction of two cents in price is made for every ten coming under the weight of two ounces each. All the eggs supplied by the members must stand severe tests. Each farmer is supplied with a small rubber stamp, with which he must stamp each egg before it will be received for shipment.

The eggs, on coming to the shipping house, are subjected to careful test by experts. These can tell almost to a day how long an egg has been laid, so that it is of advantage to the farmer to hasten his poultry products to the shipping point while they are fresh. Tests are made by means of a specially devised lamp, which throws its rays entirely through an egg, on the same plan as used by candler in our American wholesale depots, and also on the plan of tests as made by men using artificial incubation.

As a result, purchasers in the city have an abiding faith in the stamp of the society, and the prominent hotels, stores and catering firms are willing to pay more for eggs the freshness of which they are assured. Contracts are made with large hotels, provision houses and catering establishments, and these now take about all the eggs the society can dispose of, and pay the best prices for them.

If the farmers and poultrymen will unite and not only study the best methods for marketing, but also the most scientific ways for feeding, selecting and caring for stock to increase the size of the egg, they would not only be giving themselves a valuable knowledge, but the demand for their product would be such as to realize a few cents a dozen for their goods over the prevailing open market quotations.

About twenty years ago the broiler raisers of Hammonton, N. J., formed themselves into an association for not only mutual benefit as far as the exchanging of advice and ideas, but also to combine their shipments and thus obtain more satisfactory results. Hammonton did not have what today would be called large broiler houses. At that time—it was in the infancy of the business—a brooding house of 1,000-chick capacity was considered a very large plant. There were only one or two of that size and the rest would turn out from 300 to 500 birds a season. There were forty men engaged in the business, with probably the average product of 400 head per year each.

Now for these small men to ship their product



"Top row, in doorway, reading from left to right: Chas. K. Nelson, B. P. Gray, H. O. Packard. Standing on the ground, left to right: J. E. Gerhart, R. A. Sharpe, T. W. Vare."

into the market meant too great an expense, and the result was that the profits were too small to make the business worth following. Something had to be done. So the broiler men got together and formed an association known as the "Hammonton Poultry Association." They held regular weekly meetings and elected one of their men as their agent. He went into the market of the large cities (principally New York City) and instead of offering a limited amount, made contracts for regular shipments of large numbers of birds. As the samples submitted were of the highest order there was no trouble to secure an advance over the regular market price.

This, then, meant weekly shipments of a certain amount, and each of the forty members contributed to the shipment. If A had fifty broilers, he delivered them to the agent and was credited with the amount; if B had but ten birds, he received the same rate of credit for ten, and so on. When the returns came, the expense was deducted from the receipts, which usually was an average of two cents per bird, which included freight, hauling, commission, and association expenses, and the man with ten birds received the same amount per head as did the man with fifty.

It built up the broiler trade and reputation of Hammonton, and it made famous what is known all over the United States as the "Philadelphia Chicken." Philadelphia had nothing to do with it, but for some reason or other that city has been honored by the trade mark secured largely through faithful work of the Hammonton poultry men.

The broiler industry in Hammonton, however, petered out, and the Hammonton Poultry Association as broiler raisers has been in the past few years supplanted by the new Hammonton Poultry Association, incorporated under new management.

This present association has a different object. The members are working more directly along the lines of producing table eggs. The product is regularly shipped to the best selected trade in New York City, and so well has this market been cultivated that the members are receiving fully ten cents per dozen more for their eggs than the quotations of the general market. Their trade calling principally for white eggs, the White Leghorn and the Ancona breeds are used exclusively, and each of the members are breeders of either of those varieties, with the single exception of Charles K. Nelson, who keeps only the White Wyandottes, he having a special trade which the white egg fad does not touch.

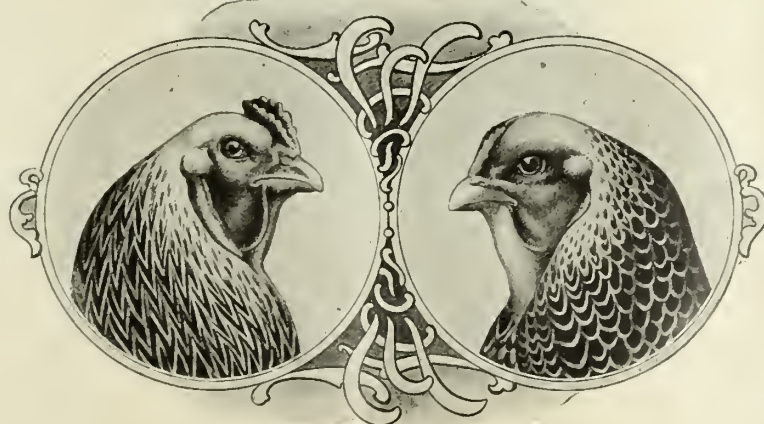
The president of the present association is Rev. R. H. Sharpe, while the other members are Benton P. Gray, Charles K. Nelson, J. E. Gerhart, H. O. Packard, T. W. Vare and Anton Piez. Mr. Vare is a breeder of both Anconas and White Leghorns, and, as stated, Mr. Nelson has White Wyandottes. All the rest of the members are White Leghorn men. Besides catering to the table egg trade the individual members are in the business of supplying breeding stock and eggs for hatching.

The association has also established a feed business that is growing rapidly into one of the leading industries of the town. The feed is purchased in large lots and as the individual members are owners of large poultry farms, their patronage alone to the association is quite an item. But in addition to their patronage thousands of dollars' worth of feed is annually sold to other poultry men in the town who do not belong to the association.

The building occupied for the feed business is a large one constructed expressly for that purpose, with ample space to keep in stock tons of feeds of all kinds. One great card of the association is that at their store every recommended article of poultry food is kept, and this brings patronage that otherwise they might not get.

Aside of all this, annually a poultry show is held, which, for quality, is worthy a place ten times the size of Hammonton. At the recent show, held December 6 and 7, it required two judges to place the awards. This move is the cause of more pure-bred stock being kept in the town and vicinity. In fact, the barnyard hen is almost a rarity in that locality.

It is hoped that a lesson may be taught by the different methods of cooperation cited, and that throughout the entire country poultrymen will follow in the wake of what is now being so successfully accomplished.



A FEW FEEDING FACTS

By O. F. SAMPSON

FEED to the fowl, animal, or human being is simply what fuel is to the engine—a power of generation, or a generation of several results sought for. Some heat and energy producing feeds are required, and other necessary chemical results to provide life and produce eggs, fat, or heat, etc. One all important thing is that the feed shall be assimilated and digested, or our labors will be in vain.

Scientific feeding has resulted in great good in the increased egg production, better market fowls, etc. Few poulterers now waste feed by simply throwing handfuls or pailfuls into the birds regardless of the results. Analyses of grains have given us their food values, and scientific feeding and study of results have proven why certain grains produce certain results under almost all conditions.

DIGESTION AND ASSIMILATION.

We hear much concerning the digestion of foods. But we don't often hear much about assimilation of foods. I have once or twice before discussed these elements of food, but I believe it will bear going over again briefly.

First, then, as to digestion. We know that no food can be nutritious unless it digests well, and we also know that only a portion of the food we feed digests at all. In other words, we are bound to have more or less waste food, and this waste produces no nutrition or value of any kind. Hence, it is necessary that we know how to feed so that the largest amount may be digested and assimilated, if we may expect best results. Let us take one of our staple grains fed to fowls, and note the result and real cost per 100 pounds of wheat.

FEED VALUE OF WHEAT FOR FOWLS.

Let us say that we pay \$2 for 100 pounds of the grain. From chemical analysis of over 800 samples it has been found that only 49 per cent of this 100 pounds of grain is digested and assimilated. Hence our feed really costs us \$4 per 100 pounds so far as value of nutrition is concerned. We have often noted that more or less food is found in the voidings of fowls, and while it produces a very valuable fertilizer, it is a costly feed when not digested. This isn't the worst of it, however. Before the fowl can use the digested grain to any account for eggs or flesh, the food after digesting must be assimilated, or used to build up the body, flesh, or egg production of the fowl. After the needs of the bird's body are satisfied, the residue will go to produce flesh or eggs. One of the most essential things to produce good digestion and assimilation of food is at least 4 per cent of phosphorus in the food. With this in view we will consider the real value of wheat as a food, and in doing so we will briefly take into account the anatomy of the fowl and the manner food is digested and assimilated.

Most poultrymen are more or less familiar with the digestive apparatus of the fowl. We know that the hen has no teeth, and that the process of mastication is performed in the fowl's gizzard. Here the food is compressed and rolled against grit, etc., by muscular contraction, and the juices to aid digestion are mixed with food in both first

and second stomachs. The internal membrane of the gizzard is thin, fibrous and hard, and secretes large quantities of matter that will dissolve even flinty substance and carbonate of lime. Fluids are never found in the gizzard, but pass to first and second stomachs, unless in case of disease. The gizzard also does away in a large measure with salivary glands, but these few give off a slimy excretion that aid digestion. No animal of like size has so large liver as the fowl, and this and the gall have a very prominent part in the fowl's digestion. The circulation of the fowl is not radically different from the animal.

Wheat is generally looked upon as one of the safest and best foods for poultry; its greatest drawback is its high price, usually. From an analysis of several samples of wheat the United States Department of Agriculture found the following percentage of composition—protein is taken to be all nitrogenous compounds of the feed:

Water, 10.5 per cent; ash, 1.8 per cent; protein, 11.9 per cent; fibre, 1.8 per cent; nitrogen, 71.9 per cent; ether extract, 2.1 per cent.

It must be remembered the above analysis is the crude grain from the dealer, and costs, say \$2 per 100 pounds. From tables compiled by Lindsay, of the Massachusetts Experiment Station, we find from each 100 pounds of above we have the following per cent of digestible matter:

Dry matter, 72 per cent; protein, 70 per cent; fibre, 30 per cent; nitrogen, 74 per cent; and ether extract, 60 per cent. On this basis our fowls digest 70 per cent of the 11.9 per cent crude protein in 100 pounds of wheat grain; and the other parts in proportion as above. It is easily figured what our grain costs per 100 pounds of digested food, and only digested food can be assimilated.

Another fact. Scientific authorities are united in the belief that at least 2 to 4 per cent phospho-

rus is required in food for even a 70 per cent assimilation of food digested. Here is an important fact in our feeding. It requires 1 per cent bone ash to equal 1.5 per cent of phosphorus. Wheat contains 1.8 per cent bone ash, and if none of this were wasted in digestion or assimilation we would have about 2.5 per cent of phosphorus in our feed—if wheat alone were fed. Or at best less than ¼ the desired amount for good digestion and assimilation. Hence we need to use with a wheat ration some feed strong in ash, or phosphorus, to balance—or make up the deficit. To equal the deficit of ash in the wheat we must have some feed that will analyze at least 7 per cent ash, and for this we can find but few. Wheat bran gives us about 6 per cent; rice bran 10 per cent; cotton seed meal 7.2 per cent; sunflower seed (ground) 7 per cent; and green grasses from 3 to 12 per cent, including the clovers.

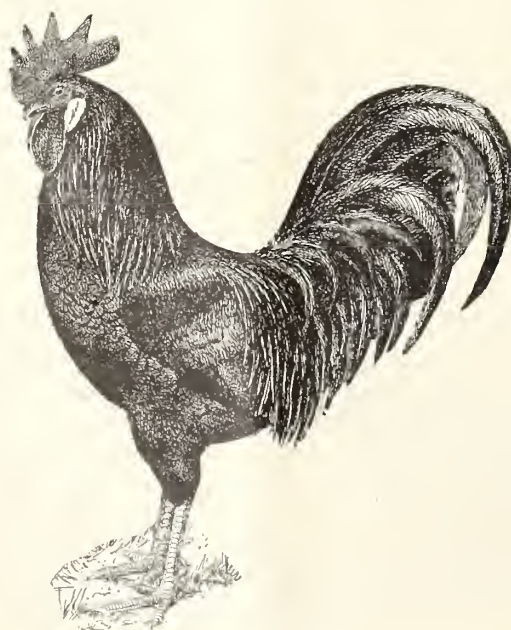
Then we have fish and meat condiments that are strongest of all in phosphorus; and this is the secret of their strong popularity as an egg food if fed in proper proportions. As their ash element, as well as protein, is exceedingly strong they must be fed with care and regard to this fact.

Fish has 29.2 per cent ash, and is our strongest ash food. Meats and meat by-products seldom run above 8 per cent ash. For the ash element we depend almost entirely upon clovers and oat chaff. The latter has 10 per cent ash, and clovers run about 12 per cent ash when cut as rowen. In winter they seldom run above 9 per cent as taken from the mow or stack and cut.

A GOOD EGG FOOD AND ASH PHOSPHORUS.

Few poulterers have learned how to properly combine foods that have just the proper ash element for best digestion and assimilation, but I give below a ration I fed with good success two years ago during winter. For 100 hens I placed about 15 pounds of dekin meat into a caldron kettle and cooked, or simmered, two hours. I fed this about 11 a. m. twice per week. As soon as meat was taken out I placed about 15 pounds of ground feed to one part each corn and oats, wheat bran and wheat middlings in kettle with about three bushels ground or fine cut clover, and let steam (cover tight) till cool enough to feed. This I fed about 2 p. m. I never feed or allow my birds to have raw meat. I prefer cooked meats myself and I believe my birds desire it.

If we will note the feeds that produce a good supply of eggs, we will usually find they are among the foods that contain a goodly amount of ash. More than this, the phosphorus element enters largely into the egg and the embryo chick. Hence, when we feed for egg production we are also feeding for better eggs, and stronger chicks and fertility. I may say in connection with this that the most important reason why eggs are a popular food in the sick room and often prescribed for invalids, etc., by the medical fraternity is because they contain many times more phosphorus than any other food of equal bulk or weight. Goat's milk is probably next to eggs in phosphatic elements, and is also often given invalids and convalescents.



Brown Leghorn Male

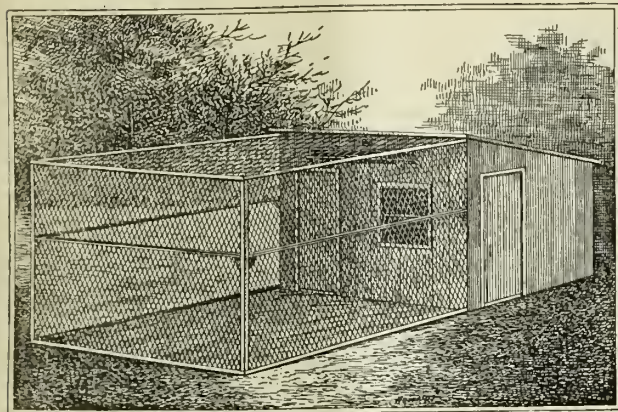


Fig. 3

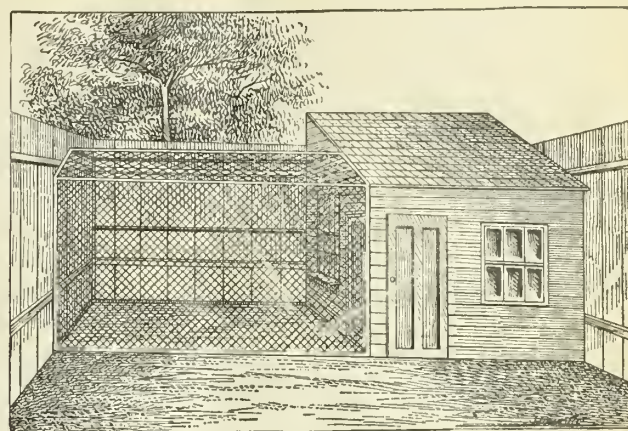
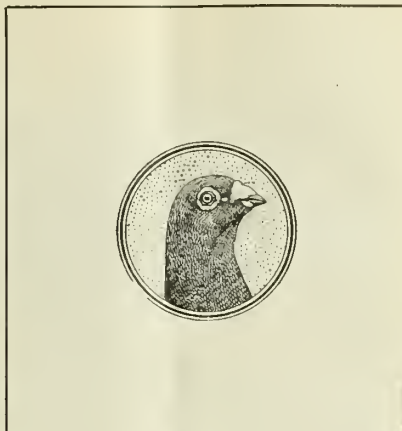


Fig. 7

Breeding Houses for Pigeons

Money in Squabs

WHEN making preparations for squab raising, the first and one of the most important considerations is the location of the breeding establishment. This should be so situated as to be warm in winter and not excessively hot in summer, and above all things, where it will be free from dampness. For this reason a southern exposure is the best, and if sheltered from the north and west winds, which are those most to be dreaded in the winter, so much the better.

An expensive structure is not a necessity, although if an entire new building is constructed a certain amount of attention should be given to neatness of appearance, a feature that will not be regretted when finished and ready for occupancy.

Many may not want to go to the expense of erecting a building purposely for breeding, and having barn room may prefer to partition off a portion for the purpose. This can readily be done, although if on an upper floor, entails a greater amount of work in caring for the birds than if nearer the ground. If the upper floor of a barn be used, an aviary or flight should be constructed, as shown in Fig. 1. This flight is essential for keeping the birds healthy and giving them outdoor exercise and fresh air. Such a flight is inexpensive to build, being made of a light framework and covered with one-inch mesh wire. If ground floor be used southern exposure should be selected, the apartment well provided with light, and made, as far as possible, rat and mice-proof. This can be done by making all joints tight, by tinning around the lower portion of the partitions and either making a concrete floor or filling in between the joists on which the floor is laid, with gravel, slag, or cinders. Rats can not work in such material and keep away. Partitions should be made either of tongued and grooved boards well seasoned, or twelve-inch boards well battened and seasoned. This prevents draughts and aids in keeping the room warm in winter, a condition much to be desired if squabs are to be raised at that season, which is the time when they are dearest and consequently bring the best prices. If it is necessary to erect a building let the sills be laid near the ground on flat stones and then fill in between the sleepers, as I have before described, either with cinders, slag or gravel. If not possible to procure these, then raise it about a foot from the

ground, on posts or stone piers, which will allow of space for a cat to move around in and keep rats away. By boarding up on the sides in winter and banking with sawdust or turf, leaving a small opening at one end for the cat, it will be warm and dry. For such a building use hemlock or spruce joist, and good seasoned pine lumber tongued and grooved, or with straight edges, so that it can be battened. Boards should be sixteen feet long and one inch thick, and if attention is to be paid to neatness dressed on the outside at least. Joist should be of two by four stuff, sixteen feet long. By cutting these in two, making one length eight and a half feet for the front, and the other seven and a half feet for the back, there will be no waste, and it will give the roof all the pitch necessary to shed water well.

The roof can be made of ordinary roofing boards and covered with three-ply tarred roofing paper or felt, which, although it costs a little more at first, is the most economical in the end. If this is then given a good coating of roofing paint, or cement, it will last for years. If shingles are to be had at a low price there can be no better roof if well laid. To secure a house cool in summer and warm in winter, it should be ceiled or plastered inside, but as this entails more expense than most people like to incur at first, if the building is lined on the north and west sides with twoply felt roofing paper it will add to its warmth. If it is also used overhead, it will be an advantage,

adding to the warmth in winter and making it cooler in summer.

The floor should be made of tongued and grooved flooring, of such a quality as builder can afford. The front should be provided with large windows about six feet apart, and in size about three by six feet. This will give plenty of light, and sunlight in the winter when the birds are confined to the house by snow and cold weather. Windows should be made so as to slide to the side, that they may be opened and closed as necessity requires. Size of lights about seven by nine, and if covered with wire netting there is less liability of breakage.

Ideas vary as to size of house, but one fourteen by sixteen feet floor surface, as shown in Fig. 3, with the heights as before mentioned front and back will accommodate about fifty pairs comfortably. As necessity requires this can be added to indefinitely. But rooms accommodating 100 birds, with communication between each room, I believe to be better than one long room, say to accommodate 1,000 birds, as with so many in one room there is bound to be discord. Fig. 4 shows ground plan of a house suitable for 400 birds. This house is fifty-six feet long and sixteen feet wide, and is divided into four separate rooms, each being fourteen by sixteen feet in size. It is really four houses joined together like the one shown in Fig. 3. The plan shows arrangement of interior, and location of nests. Fig. 5 is perspective view of the plan.

If it is desired to commence with a few, a house to suit the convenience can be erected. In constructing a house for commercial purposes the door should be made wide enough to admit a wheelbarrow, as there are many times when it will be an advantage to use one inside of the building. Attached to the house on the south side, should be an area or space for the birds to fly in, and have exercise in the open air. This can be made as large as capital will allow and the height of the building eight and one-half feet. It should be surrounded and covered with wire netting of one-inch mesh, as it prevents the ingress of rats and sparrows, both of which devour the grain, and are in every way objectionable.

The framework can be made of any light material supported on chestnut or cedar posts. Around the run, about six feet from the ground, should be placed six-inch fence boards, with an occasional

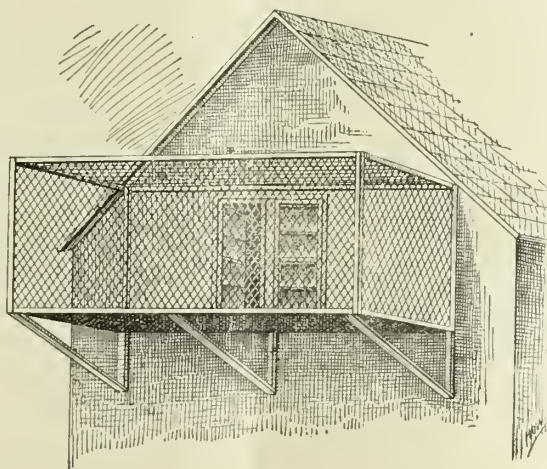


Fig. 1

(Continued next month.)



NOTE.—This Chart will be published each Month in *The Feather* during the year. Keep a correct record of your birds each month.

Preparing Birds for Exhibition

By PLUMMER McCULLOUGH

The time of year is here when the winter poultry shows will be in full swing. During December, January and February there will be shows in progress every week. In fact many of them some weeks. The poultry show is something that we should all patronize as much as possible, as it is not only an educator for the beginner, but makes a few days of pleasure for the old breeder as well. Beginners should show their birds at every opportunity, but it is well to remember that one must do more than pay the entrance fee and ship the birds to the show to win the coveted blue ribbons. This is a day of specialists and we must be specialists in more ways than one to land many ribbons at any of our big shows.

Especially is this true if we breed one of the popular varieties, as we likely will have strong competition.

To properly prepare birds for the show room we should start several weeks before the show. Perhaps I should have said months, but we should start soon enough so as to bring out every good point in our birds we possibly can. We should, if possible, separate the birds we intend to show from the rest of the flock and give them special care. Give a variety of good grain feed and a good dry mash. If they are under weight I would feed both grain and mash from hoppers. If the legs are not in the best of condition, go over them every night with vaseline. This will do the legs as much good as anything I know of. Keep the females and the males separate and don't keep adding or changing them around all the time. Every time you add a new hen to the pen it starts a fight and the less fights the better. A torn comb or broken wing or tail feather counts against you every time.

Every time you can you should handle your birds and get them as tame as you possibly can. This is very important as a wild bird shows up very poorly in the show room and if you can't take time to tame them you had better leave them at home. I know of no better way of taming birds than by handling them often, and letting them eat out of your hand. Let them see that you are their friend and they will soon get to know you. Teach them how to pose so as to show off their shape to best advantage. Remove any off-colored, stained or broken feathers long before the show, so that new ones may appear again. Feed some green food every day, so as to keep them in good health. No special feeding rules can be laid down for feeding show birds. A variety of feed that will keep them in the very best condition is what you want. Some meat scrap or milk should be fed, but not enough to make the comb and wattles oversized. You must use your own judgment about such things. About two weeks before the show I would place the birds to be shown in exhibition coops. Have the coops plenty large so they will not be crowded as a crowded bird can not show at its best.

Leave them in the exhibition coops several hours daily. If they are under weight feed so as to increase it. If overweight feed so as to decrease the weight. Feed no yellow corn to white fowls. Better not feed corn at all unless they have all been through the moult. It has a tendency to make creaminess when they are growing new feathers. Now, if you are preparing white fowls

you must wash them, and if the competition is very strong, I believe it will pay you to wash them even if they are not a white variety. It improves any fowl to wash them, no matter what the color is. If the birds are extra dirty, it will pay to wash them twice, once about a week before the show and then again about two days before. Unless very dirty one washing will do and I think it is best done just long enough before the show to have the birds dry and fluffed out in good shape. To wash a bird or string of birds, I prepare three tubs of water. The first tub I fill about two-thirds of hot water. Don't have it too hot, but make it hot enough so you can hold your hand in without pain. Tub No. 2 I fill also about two-thirds full of luke-warm water. Just have it warm enough for the fowl's comfort. Tub No. 3 I fill half full of cold water and put in a bucketful or two of warm water to take the chill off. This last tub is used as the bluing tub and the water should be made just about as blue as your wife would for white clothes. When you start to wash the bird put it in tub No. 1 and wet it all over. Work the water into the skin by pouring on the fowl's neck, back and wings with a cup. After the fowl is thoroughly wet, lather it freely with a good white soap. I find Ivory the best I can use. Don't be afraid to use plenty of soap as it takes lots to make the bird absolutely clean. After the feathers are good and wet you can rub them any old way, just like a rag. Some use a sponge for washing, but I always use my bare hand. First I wash the head, then the neck, shoulders, wings, back, tail, fluff body and breast in rotation named. Clean legs and toes with an old tooth brush or a small scrubbing brush. If any dirt is under the scales remove it with a tooth pick. After you are sure that the bird has all the dirt washed out place in tub No. 2, and wash out all the soap. Take as much time to do this as you did to wash in first tub. Be very certain that you get all the soap rinsed out, as it may spoil your entire job if you do not. After this is done place in the bluing tub, No. 3, and again give it a short rinsing. After you have removed the bird from the bluing tub proceed to dry it. Squeeze out all the water you can with your hand by catching bunches of feathers. Use a sponge to dry also, if you have one.

After all water has been gotten out possible in this way, place the bird before a brisk fire and allow it to dry. Don't get it too close to the fire or it will cause the feathers to curl. If you are anxious for it to dry quick you can hasten it by placing the bird on a chair and fanning it with a palm-leaf fan.

If you do a good job of washing your bird should feather out pure white and clean as snow. After thoroughly dry dust each bird all over with corn starch. Work this into the feathers well. This is not done to fake the bird or make it look any whiter, but is done to keep dirt from sticking to the bird's feathers. After washing keep the birds on perfectly clean straw and remove any droppings that they may make. Keep them perfectly clean, as much depends on this whether you are successful or not in the show room. When you ship to the show cover top of coops over with muslin so as to keep out any soot or dirt that might soil

your birds. I have worked on a farm hard all day, and then worked hard washing chickens till after midnight, but I was rewarded by winning the blue ribbons. You can do the same if you will use care and judgment in preparing your birds for exhibition.

Hatching and Rearing Turkeys by Artificial Methods

Notwithstanding the popularity of the turkey for human consumption and its consequent high price, the turkey producers have not been able to supply the demands of the market, due to the fact that turkeys are more subject to diseases than chickens and because the care of the young poults requires much patience on the part of the poultryman. Nevertheless, turkey raising returns a good profit to the producer when properly handled. In Farmers' Bulletin 200 the problems connected with raising turkeys have been outlined and treated more or less in detail. In a previous number of this series precautionary measures for preventing the disease known as black-head are outlined.

The results obtained in the following experiment, conducted by the Washington station, on hatching and rearing turkeys by artificial methods, should prove of value to those who desire information on the care of young poults.

SETTING THE MACHINE.—About the 1st of June we secured 102 turkey eggs of the Mammoth Bronze variety, which nicely filled the tray of our 150-hen-egg incubator. The machine had previously been warmed in the usual way, and at the time the eggs were placed in the tray the thermometer registered 102°. The moisture pan, which was the same size as the tray and located beneath and 2 inches from the tray, was supplied with sand one-half inch in depth, which was thoroughly saturated with warm water. This sand was kept wet enough to show puddles of water on its surface at all times during incubation, by daily applications of water heated 100 to 103° F.

TURNING THE EGGS.—The eggs were turned once every 12 hours—morning and evening—beginning on the third day after they were placed in the tray and continued until the first sign of hatching, the pipping of the egg. The turning was very carefully done by first removing from the center of the tray about 1 dozen eggs and then carefully rolling, with the hand, the remaining eggs toward the center of the tray, just enough to change the position of each egg. The eggs that had been removed were then placed in either end of the tray.

TEMPERATURE.—During the first week a temperature of 102° was maintained, and afterwards 103°, with but slight variations.

TESTING.—On the tenth day the eggs were tested for fertility, 4 clear eggs being found, which, with the 3 that were cracked in transit, left for the machine just 95 eggs. Of these, 4 more were taken out at the second testing, which occurred on the twentieth day. Thus we had 91 eggs that had stood the test.

HATCHING.—The first evidence of hatching occurred on the evening of the twenty-seventh day, and by the evening of the twenty-eighth day the hatch was complete, resulting in 87 poults—4 had died in the shell. The day following the hatch the incubator door was left ajar about one-eighth of an inch, which was increased the second night to one-quarter of an inch. This was done to

gradually harden the poults in their preparation for the hover.

BROODING.—During the afternoon of the second day after the hatch the poults were placed in a hover in the brooder house. The hover had been warmed to a temperature of 90°. The poults appeared well and bright. All were placed in one hover, which proved to be a mistake, for the following morning there were several dead ones, caused by the young things deserting the hover and piling up, many of the underneath ones being smothered. About 30 were thus lost in a few hours.

When reared in the natural way and seeking to be hovered, the poults instinctively duck their heads and creep under the mother hen, while she assumes a setting position. The poults having thus assembled they become distributed among the feathers and under the wings of the hen. The warmth from the hen's body satisfies them. They become quiet. Deprived of the mother hen they bunch when, in their search for warmth, a scramble ensues, each poult making a desperate effort to get under the bunch. In the struggle they become surprisingly entangled, causing a condition that brings death to the weakest ones from smothering.

In order to save the remaining poults they were divided among three hovers, which ended the losses. These hovers were at first kept at about 90° temperature for about a week, when they were reduced in temperature about 10° weekly, until down to 70°; which temperature was maintained until the poults were about six weeks of age, after which time they do not require artificial heat. They were permitted to occupy the hovers for a couple of weeks longer, when the hovers were removed entirely. Care had been taken in keeping the hovers scrupulously clean by removing the dirt and supplying clean chaff. After removing the hovers, the poults were confined to their nursery rooms, each 4 by 12 feet, with an outside runway 4 by 20 feet. It was found necessary to provide additional runways as they rapidly outgrew those they were occupying. At four months of age they were given their liberty. They would not range, nor travel but a few rods from the place where they had been confined.

FEEDING.—Unlike chickens, the young poults appeared not to know where to find their food. Teaching them to eat promised to become quite a problem. Failing to attract them to their feed in other ways, a few young chicks were placed in the nursery with each flock of poults. It was surprising how aptly they took their first lessons from the chicks. Within one hour the problem was solved and all were feeding and drinking, with no further trouble. The first feed was stale bread, moistened with sweet milk, chopped onion tops, grit, and pure water. At this time the poults were nearly three days old. About three days later their bread feed was gradually changed to commercial chick feed, cooked milk curds and lettuce. Three or four days later there was added to this feed dry bran and beef scraps—five parts bran to one part scraps—mixed and placed within their reach in shallow boxes, which was kept before them all the time until they became five months of age. A convenient hopper for this dry bran feeding we find to be a box 4 feet long, 6 inches wide and 6 inches deep, with a strip 2 inches wide, nailed lengthwise and in the middle along the top. Supply this hopper daily, just enough for a single day's feed—all that the poults will eat. Fresh green stuff, such as lettuce, kale, or cabbage, was fed liberally daily, morning, noon and evening; also sweet milk and fresh water. The drinking



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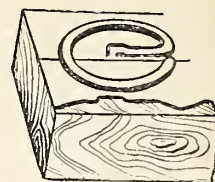
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vessels were washed clean daily. A box of gravel and cracked shells and a dust bath were kept in their nursery. From the time they would pick up oats, corn or wheat their grain ration consisted of equal parts of these grains, mixed and scattered in the runway three times daily, as much but no more than they would eat. We regard that the most surprising thing in connection with the feeding was the small quantity of these grains consumed, which was evidently due to the very liberal supply of milk and green stuff provided.

PREPARING FOR MARKET.—Two weeks before these turkeys were to be marketed for the Christmas trade they were weighed separately, when one-half of the number were divided into lots of four each and placed in darkened pens, admitting the light only at feeding times, while the remaining one-half were confined in roomy roosting quarters, having a runway of 20 by 50 feet. These quarters were not darkened in any way. Both lots, in lieu of the mixed grain and dry bran feed, were fed three times daily of the following fattening ration—all they would eat—making the change gradually; 6 parts corn meal, 2 parts middlings, 2 parts beef scraps, by weight, and moistened with milk. The green feed was fed as before.

This experiment lasted two weeks. The birds that were confined in darkened pens made no gain whatever in weight, while those birds that had more liberty gained 2 pounds and 2½ pounds each. These birds were marketed when a little more than 5½ months of age, when the pullets weighed 13 and 14 pounds each, and the toms 17 to 19 pounds each, live weight.—*Farmers' Bulletin 465, U. S. Department of Agriculture.*

Large Sizes of Sure Hatch Incubators

Every reader of this paper is familiar with the celebrated Sure Hatch incubator, which is as well, or better, known than any other in America. The manufacturers of this machine have just put upon the market two new and larger sizes than they have heretofore built. The new machines are 400 and 600 egg capacity. These larger sizes are made in response to a big demand for larger machines than their 200 egg size.

More than a year ago the company got up these new machines, but did not offer them for sale until they had been actually tried out. They were tested last winter and found to be entirely satisfactory. Quite a number were sold late in the spring and the best of reports have come in from them.

The flattering reception given these new sizes has led the Sure Hatch Company to put them on the market this season.

Their style of construction makes them easy to operate, and they have so many advantages over others of like capacity that there can be no doubt they will have a large sale, especially when they are backed by the high reputation of the Sure Hatch machines. The company is now making "seven sizes of Sure Hatches,"

which gives a wide range for purchasers to select from. The sizes are 50, 75, 100, 150, 200, 400 and 600 eggs. Customers can select machines to engage in the business to any extent they may desire.

The Sure Hatch people claim their catalog for 1912 is the finest and best they ever issued. It fully describes all the machines made by the company and contains a great deal of valuable information on the poultry business. Don't fail to send for this book, which is sent free to every one asking for it. Write to the Sure Hatch Incubator Co., Box 165, Fremont, Neb.

Read the Report of the Washington and Baltimore Shows in the February number.

Shows and Associations

The Yates Poultry Association will hold their second annual show at Penn Yan, N. Y., January 10-13, 1912. The premium list is now ready and will be mailed upon application to the secretary, J. W. Corcoran, Penn Yan, N. Y.

Franklin County Poultry Association are completing arrangements for their annual exhibition at Chambersburg, Pa., January 24-27, 1912. The judges selected are Messrs. Theo. Whitman and Chas. F. Cornman. For premium lists and other information address the secretary, E. E. Eckel, Chambersburg, Pa.

The poultry fanciers of Dover, N. H., and vicinity have organized an association with a membership of 123, to be known as the Granite State Poultry Association. They will hold their first exhibit at Dover, N. H., January 16 to 19, 1912. They promise a fine list of regular and special prizes. For premium list and further information address the secretary, Edward H. Quimby, Box 144, Dover, N. H.

The First Annual Show of the Warrenton Poultry Association, at Warrenton, Va., will be held January 25, 26 and 27, 1912. This is a step in the right direction, and the officers of the association are sanguine of success. This is a new field and everything is being done to stimulate interest in the work. The officers are: Albert Fletcher, Jr., president; H. I. Hutton, treasurer; F. D. Gaskins, secretary, and H. M. Hubbell, manager.

The annual meeting of the American White Orpington Club will be held February 7, 1912, 3 p. m., Indianapolis, Ind., in connection with the Fanciers' Association of Indiana Show, February 5-9, 1912. The Fanciers' Association has offered the club, on account of its meeting with them, in addition to the regular cash prizes, \$10 for best display, \$5 for second best display. And if 150 White Orpingtons are entered, \$50 cash additional, divided from first to fifth prizes, and \$100 in silver cups. If 200 Whites are entered the \$50 cash and \$200 in silver cups. The club offers in addition to this, \$75 in cash as follows: \$5 cash to each of the first prize

winners, \$4 cash to each of the second prize winners, \$3 cash to each of the third prize winners, \$2 cash to each of the fourth prize winners, \$1 cash to each of the fifth prize winners, and one handsome club cup to the member showing the best cock, cockerel, hen and pullet. This is a grand lot of specials, and should bring out the largest class of White Orpingtons ever brought together. The specials are open to members only who are paid in full for 1912. Members in arrears had better remit back dues at once. Readers wishing to join should send for club book and application blank to the secretary, F. S. Bullington, box 328, Richmond, Va. The membership fee is \$1, yearly dues \$1, or life membership \$10.

The prize list of the Boston Show will be in the mail December 1, and the regular and special cash prizes amount to over \$6,000, besides 100 silver cups. Some varieties are especially well provided for. Among the specials are \$200 on Buff Plymouth Rocks, \$180 on White Wyandottes, \$100 on Rhode Island Reds, \$125 on Silver Laced Wyandottes, \$100 on Hamburgs, \$100 on Bantams and other varieties have from \$20 to \$50.

The show promises to be the greatest ever and exhibits are coming from all sections of the country. To handle this immense show a large corps of judges has been engaged, as follows: F. G. Bean, Collegeville, Pa., Columbian Plymouth Rocks; C. M. Bryant, Wollaston, Mass., Rhode Island Reds; C. A. Ballow, Worcester, Mass., Silver Penciled and Partridge Plymouth Rocks, Spanish and Langshans; W. H. Card, Manchester, Conn., Brown and Buff Leghorns and Buckeyes; M. H. Coffin, Roslindale, Mass., Partridge Wyandottes and Pheasants; J. H. Drevenstedt, Buffalo, N. Y., Buff and Golden Wyandottes, French and Ornamental Bantams, except Cochins; Arthur G. Duston, South Framingham, Mass., White Wyandottes; H. B. Gleezen, Georgetown, Mass., Pit Games; Clarence W. King, Romulus, N. Y., Turkeys and Waterfowl; W. G. Minich, Carlisle, Pa., Polish; Wm. McNeil, London, Ont., Hamburgs; F. P. Magoun, Bedford, Mass., Games and Game Bantams; D. Lincoln Orr, Orr's Mills, N. Y., Columbian Wyandottes; R. Oke, London, Ont., Orpingtons and Cochins Bantams; H. N. Rollins, Westboro, Mass., Light Brahmas; F. W. Rogers, Brockton, Mass., Dark Brahmas, Anconas and Minorcas; H. P. Schwab, Rochester, N. Y., Buff and White Plymouth Rocks; D. P. Shove, Fall River, Mass., Houdans, Black Leghorns and Andalusians; Franklane L. Sewell, Silver Laced Wyandottes; C. H. Weeles, Stratford, Conn., Barred Plymouth Rocks; C. A. Wheeler, Brighton, Mass., Black Wyandottes, American Dominiques and Cornish; Geo. W. Weed, East Lee, Mass., White Leghorns, Campines and Cochins.

Pigeon Judges: James Blair, Yonkers, N. Y., Fantails; A. J. Edwards, Winchester, Mass., Helmets, Nuns, Cumulets and Hen Pigeons; Geo. Feather, Dorchester, Mass., Dragons, Archangels, Carneaux and Tipplers; Jos. A. Eibel, Orientals and Turbits; Herbert R. Foshay, Mamaroneck, N. Y., Jacobins; A. M. Ingram, Milford, N. H., Owls, Swallows and

Pigmy Pouters; H. Stephenson, Quincy, Mass., Tumblers.

Dressed Poultry and Eggs, George V. Fletcher, Belmont, Mass.; Pet Stock, Robert Whitaker, Dalton, Mass.; Cats, Mrs. Champion, New York.

Entries close December 21, or earlier if necessary, to keep the show within bounds, for there is no double tiering at the Boston Show, and last year there were over 6,000 specimens in the big building. Free lectures are being arranged for: Wednesday at 7 p. m., Mr. C. W. Whitney will give a practical lecture with stereopticon. Thursday at 7 p. m., Mr. W. H. Card will give an interesting chalk talk, and it is hoped that on Friday evening a well-known Government official will be present. Wednesday, as usual, will be Veteran Fanciers' Day. The show is from January 9 to 13, in the big Mechanics' Building, the largest show building in America. Intending exhibitors may obtain premium list of W. B. Atherton, 30 Broad Street, Boston, Mass.

Nashville wants the 1912 Convention of the American Poultry Association. A special representative was sent by the Nashville Board of Trade and the Nashville Industrial Bureau, two of the largest commercial organizations in the South, to the Denver Convention, with an invitation signed by the Governor of the State, two United States Senators, Members of Congress, the Mayor of the city, the Secretary of the State, the Commissioner of Agriculture, the Nashville Board of Trade, the Nashville Industrial Bureau, the Nashville Commercial Club, the Tennessee Branch of the American Poultry Association, the Tennessee State Fair Board of Trustees, the Davidson County Poultry Association, the Tennessee Poultry Association, the Southern Poultry and Egg Shippers' Association, the Tri-State Poultry Association of Memphis, besides many prominent citizens urging the American Poultry Association to hold its next annual session in the city of Nashville, Tenn., and promising that if the American Poultry Association came to the Capital City of Tennessee for its 1912 convention they would be accorded the greatest reception and entertainment in the history of the organization.

The commercial organizations of Nashville and the citizens generally appreciate the importance of the poultry industry to this section of the country, and believe that if the association will hold its next convention in Nashville, it would not only be the largest attended convention ever held by a poultry association, but will give an impetus to the poultry industry in the entire South that can not be attained in any other way. Nashville is nearer a larger per cent of the membership of the American Poultry Association than any other Southern city. It is within twelve to fifteen hours ride from points in all the Middle and Southern States. Nashville is a Convention City with facilities to entertain any size convention. Her hotel accommodations are ample and of the very best. The climate in Nashville in August is delightful, and points of interest to be seen in and around Nashville are innumerable, among which are the Hermitage, the home of Andrew Jackson, visited annually by tourists from all over the world, and

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Efficient Poultry Lice Exterminator for Destroying Lice and Mites in chicken coops, roosts, runways and nests. By using

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You can easily rid all cracks and crevices of vermin, and at the same time your coops, nests and roosts will be thoroughly disinfected, thereby enabling your poultry to fight off disease. — Ask your dealer, or write direct to

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the battlefields of some of the most important engagements of the Civil War. Nashville is surrounded by more places of historic interest than almost any other city in the country. Among the many side trips that can be made from Nashville are Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, the scenery of which equals that of Colorado; Chickamauga Park, which embraces over fifteen square miles and is a park of magnificent proportions, the United States Government having spent nearly a million dollars and the State over a half million in erecting monuments to commemorate the deeds of valor of their soldiers; Fort Oglethorpe, Missionary Ridge, Orchard Knob, General Grant's Headquarters, the National and the Confederate Cemeteries. The famous Mammoth Cave of Kentucky is but a short distance north of Nashville. This cave is the world's greatest subterranean wonder, and is annually visited by people from every country on the globe. Come to Nashville in 1912 and let us give you a genuine old-fashioned Southern welcome. John A. Murkin, James M. Frank, E. Lockert Doak, Committee on Invitation, representing Nashville's Commercial Organizations.

Show Dates

JANUARY.

Jan. 1-5—Lansing, Mich. Tucker, Judge; J. A. Turner, Secretary.
Jan. 1-5—Tulsa, Okla. J. W. Binding, Secretary.
January 1-5—Enid, Okla. J. A. Taggart, Secretary, Waukomis, Okla.
Jan. 1-6—Young America, Ind. Elmer Glimlin, Judge; A. D. Wood, Secretary.

Jan. 1-6—Danville, Ind. Zlike, Judge; Martin Mitchell, Secretary.
Jan. 1-16—Parkersburg, W. Va., Chas. McClave, Judge; G. W. Hatch, secretary.
Jan. 2-6—Norwalk, Ohio. J. C. Cliff, Judge; C. C. Jackson, Secretary.
Jan. 2-6—Camden, N. J. W. Lee Spring, Secretary.
Jan. 2-6—Coshocton, Ohio. Falkner, Judge; Dr. Geo. M. Boone, Secretary.
Jan. 2-6—Pueblo, Colo. Helmlich, Judge; Geo. Loomis, Secretary.
Jan. 2-6—Rensselaer, Ind. Pickett, Judge; H. B. Murray, Secretary.
Jan. 2-6—Springfield, Ill. Russell, Judge; Theo. S. McCoy, Secretary.
Jan. 2-6—Baltimore, Md. Geo. O. Brown, Secretary, 2027 E. North Ave., Baltimore, Md.
Jan. 3-6—Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Russell and Shellabarger, Judges; E. D. Monllaw, Secretary.
Jan. 3-6—Norfolk, Nebr. Southard, Judge; H. B. Dixon, Secretary.
Jan. 5-9—Mankato, Minn. Tucker, Judge; J. W. Kollman, Secretary.
Jan. 8-12—Steelton, Pa. J. Welr Zimmerman, Secretary.
Jan. 8-13—Cherryvale, Kans. Elmer Glimlin, Judge; W. Clark, Secretary.
Jan. 8-13—Muskogee, Okla. C. R. Binding, Secretary.
Jan. 8-13—Lebanon, Ind. Zlike, Judge; Frank B. Wooley, Secretary.
Jan. 8-13—Columbus, Ind. Frank C. Sites, Z. D. Struble, Judges; H. K. Volland, Secretary.
January 8-14—Waukegan, Ill. Robt. C. Connolly, Secretary.
Jan. 9-12—Winsted, Conn. R. S. Seymour, Secretary.
Jan. 9-12—Abingdon, Va. F. J. Marshall, Judge; M. H. Smith, Secretary.
Jan. 9-13—Boston, Mass. W. B. Atherton, Secretary, 30 Broad St.
Jan. 9-13—Madison, Wls. Tucker, Judge; Jas. Halpin, Secretary.
Jan. 9-13—Topeka, Kans. Helmlich, Judge; Thos. Owen, Secretary.
Jan. 9-13—Wooster, Ohio. Falkner, Judge; Albert S. Sauer, Secretary.
Jan. 9-14—Manning, Iowa. Shellabarger, Judge; H. C. Goetch, Secretary.

Jan. 9-14—Tipton, Ind. Pickett, Judge; Hallie Lane, Secretary.
Jan. 10-13—Beaver, Pa. J. Mays Ecoff, Secretary.
Jan. 10-13—Washington, N. J. Webb, Huyler, Stanton, Judges; A. S. Harle, Secretary.
Jan. 10-13—Penn Yan, N. Y., Jas. W. Corcoran, secretary.
Jan. 11-13—Henrietta, N. C. O. R. Coffield, Secretary.
Jan. 11-15—Oshkosh, Wls. Tucker, Judge; James Irvine, Secretary.
Jan. 12-14—Milwaukee, Wls. Helmlich, Judge; Theo. Koss, Secretary.
Jan. 13-15—Des Moines, Iowa. Russell, Judge; E. C. Beck, Secretary.
Jan. 15-18—Elyria, Ohio. Eugene Sites, Judge; A. J. Laundon, Secretary.
Jan. 15-19—Galesburg, Ill. Pickett, Judge; F. J. Bohl, Secretary.
Jan. 15-19—Michigan City, Ind. Tucker, Judge; John Friske, Secretary.
Jan. 15-20—Walla Walla, Wash. Elmer Glimlin, Judge; R. C. McCracken, Secretary.
Jan. 15-20—Charleston-Kanawha, W. Va. S. G. Case, Judge; G. R. Edgar, Secretary.
Jan. 15-20—Defiance, Ohio. Falkner, Judge; J. H. Vincent, Secretary.
Jan. 15-21—Zanesville, Ohio. Ben Myers, Judge; Frank C. Clester, Secretary.
Jan. 16-19—Washington, D. C. Wm. C. Gray, Secretary.
Jan. 16-20—Kalamazoo, Mich. Shellabarger, Judge; F. W. Hough, Secretary.
Jan. 16-20—Terre Haute, Ind. S. B. Land, Judge; G. H. Tesman, Secretary.
Jan. 16-20—Lonaconing, Md. Lewis G. Hiller, Judge; Frank T. Phillips, Secretary.
Jan. 17-20—Blue Island, Ill. Helmlich, Judge; A. W. Doerman, Secretary.
Jan. 17-20—Denver, Colo. Russell, Judge; F. P. Johnson, Secretary.
Jan. 17-20—Grove City, Pa. Chas. H. Dougherty, Secretary.
Jan. 17-20—Waterbury, Conn. G. Fred. Moore, Secretary.

Jan. 17-20—Port Huron, Mich. Tucker, Judge; Robt. Taylor, Secretary.
Jan. 17-22—Fort Wayne, Ind. J. C. Howenstein, Secretary.
Jan. 17-23—Marietta, Ohio. Zlike, Judge; F. C. Snodgrass, Secretary.
Jan. 22-27—Blackfoot, Idaho. Elmer Glimlin, Judge; S. B. Willis, Secretary.
Jan. 22-27—Cleveland, Ohio. Falkner, Judge; J. T. Conkey, Secretary.
Jan. 22-27—DeKalb, Ill. Shellabarger, Judge; Wm. W. Hyde, Secretary.
Jan. 22-27—Louisville, Ky. Chas. A. Hess, Secretary.
Jan. 22-27—Racine, Wls. Russell, Judge; D. J. Kennedy, Secretary.
Jan. 22-27—Dixon, Ill. C. H. Rhodes, Judge; J. A. Rosebaugh, Secretary.
Jan. 22-28—Buffalo, N. Y. Tucker, Judge; S. A. Merkley, Secretary.
Jan. 22-28—Sheridan, Ind. Ben Myers, Judge; G. R. McMurtty, Secretary.
Jan. 23-25—East Hartford, Conn. Warren Hayden, secretary.
Jan. 24-26—Evansville, Ill. Helmlich, Judge; J. E. McClarey, Secretary.
Jan. 24-27—Chambersburg, Pa., E. E. Eckel, secretary.
Jan. 25-31—Detroit, Mich. Tucker, Judge; J. A. Turner, Secretary.
Jan. 25-Feb. 1—Lafayette, Ind. Zlike, Judge; S. C. Marks, Secretary.
Jan. 27-29—St. Charles, Iowa. Helmlich, Judge; J. M. Brown, Secretary.
Jan. 29-Feb. 3—Sparta, Wls. Elmer Glimlin, Judge; J. L. Herbst, Secretary.
Jan. 29-Feb. 3—Mitchell, S. Dak. Russell, Judge; W. A. Wheeler, Secretary.
Jan. 30-Feb. 4—Duluth, Minn. Tucker, Judge; H. A. Nelson, Secretary.

FEBRUARY.

Feb. 5-10—Hastings, Mich. Elmer Glimlin, Judge; Thos. E. Waters, Secretary.
Feb. 6-10—Butler, Pa. A. F. Kummer, Judge; F. E. Puff, Secretary.
Feb. 14-18—Saginaw, Mich. Elmer Glimlin, Judge; F. Plumb, Jr., Secretary.

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PLYMOUTH ROCKS

BARRED ROCKS, COCKERELS AND Pullets of the highest quality, in both matings, at most reasonable prices. Write your wants. A. W. Newcomer, Glen Rock, Pa.

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BOWMAN'S CHOICE BARRED PLY-mouth Rock cockerels \$2 each. Eggs from choice matings, \$1.50 per fifteen. F. S. Bowman, Elliott City, Md.

RINGLET BARRED ROCKS, FROM RING-let ancestors. Prize-winning matings. Peanuts. Stock and eggs for sale. Strawberry plants. Satisfaction guaranteed. Catalog free. John W. Hall, Marion Station, Md.

DOMINIQUES

100 THOROUGHBRED DOMINIQUE cockerels for sale, bred from my Boston 1911 Blue Ribbon winners. \$2 to \$5 each. Excellent trios for \$7. A. Q. Carter, Freeport, Me.

AMERICAN DOMINIQUES—FIRST-PRIZE New York and Boston winners head my pens. Also, Columbian Wyandottes. Old English Games. Dr. Harwood, Chasm Falls, Malone, N. Y.

WYANDOTTES

WHITE WYANDOTTE COCKERELS, “DUS-ton” and “Regal” strains, \$3 each. Day old chicks, 20 cents. Eggs: 15, \$1.50; 50, \$4.00; 100, \$6.00. E. J. Taylor, Berwyn, Md.

WHITE AND BUFF WYANDOTTES. Cockerels, Trios and Pens. Heavy laying strains my specialty. Wild Turkeys, Guineas, Ducks. All stock. Bertha M. Tyson, Rising Sun, Md.

REGAL AND DUSTON WHITE WYAN-dotte cockerels. \$2 to \$5 each. Low blacky, good shape. Sire of above a sixty-dollar bird. John Pfeegor, Milton, Pa.

LEGHORNS

500 WHITE LEGHORNS, YEARLING hens, early pullets, and cockerels, heavy eggs, strain and quality. Martin E. Ridgely, Benson, Md.

ROSE COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—WIN-ners at Madison Square, Buffalo and Rochester. Mating list and circular. Eight grand pens. Box F, Howard J. Fisk, Falconer, N. Y.

SINGLE-COMB WHITE LEGHORNS (America's greatest business fowl). The Newton strain, 1911 matings, are superb in color, shape and head points. Can not help but produce winners. Heavy layers of large, white eggs. Two hundred pullets left, which are to go cheap to make room. Holiday Heights Poultry Farm, Sellersville, Pa.

EGGS, DAY-OLD CHICKS, STOCK FROM large, pure white, vigorous, bred-to-day Single Comb White Leghorns. None better. Fertility guaranteed. Catalog free. Perkaskie Poultry Co., Perkaskie, Pa.

DO YOU WANT HIGH-CLASS S. C. W. Leghorns and fireless brooder? Specialty: Six-week pullets. In lots of dozen or more, ordered now, \$1.00. Quality ancestry and prolific layers. You can raise every one; and each will be worth \$3 to \$5 next fall. Don't let this opportunity pass. Yearling hens, cocks and cockerels. Grand breeders. Stamp for full circular. Galesburg, Fancy Poultry Plant, Dept. C., Galesburg, Ill.

S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS AND WHITE Rocks, of world's best strains. Eggs in season. Stock at all times. Susquehanna Yards, Route 2, Wrightsville, Pa.

BUFF LEGHORNS—A FEW CHOICE cockerels at very moderate prices. Eggs, \$3 per fifty; \$5 per hundred. Queen Anne's Poultry Farm, Crumpton, Md.

ROSE-COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—SOME fine young stock for \$1 up. Send for my list of winners. James G. Todd, Punxsutawney, Pa., Route 4.

FOR SALE—S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS. April hatched cockerels and pullets. Prize-winning strain. Heavy layers. Large, vigorous birds. Five cock birds. D. Schaller, Clark, Pa.

ORPINGTONS

SINGLE COMB WHITE ORPINGTONS. Cook's best strain. Cockerels and pullets, \$1 to \$5 each, according to age, while they last. Must have the room. A. M. Becker, Club Member, Atlanta, N. Y.

FINEST EXHIBITION QUALITY. SURE winners at utility prices. Orpingtons, all varieties. Buff Wyandottes. Best R. C. Rhode Island Reds in America. Orpington Yards, Delavan, Wis.

CRYSTAL WHITE ORPINGTONS FROM Kellerstrass \$30 mating. Fine cockerels at \$3 each. Pullets, \$2 each. Eggs, \$3 per 15. W. H. Gantz, Shrewsbury, Pa.

SIX BLACK ORPINGTON COCKERELS, April-hatched, from heavy laying strain. Grand for show or utility. All beauties. From \$3 to \$8 each. Write today. (Miss) Daisy Gladhill, Route 6, Frederick, Md.

PURE KELLERSTRASS WHITE ORPING-tons, hen-hatched, farm-raised, both sexes, all ages, at bargain prices. 1 ship on approval. Write J. R. Inskeep, Holly, Mich.

CRYSTAL WHITE ORPINGTONS FROM Kellerstrass famous \$30 matings, and Cook strain; R. C. R. 1. Reds from prize-winners. Eggs \$2 per 15. John E. Stonestifer, Westminster, Md.

COCHINS

BUFF COCHINS—150 FOR SALE. FINE in size, shape, color and feathering. At prices within reach of all. Write your wants. Luther Ulum, Keswick, Iowa.

BUFF COCHINS—YOUNG AND OLD stock for sale. Eggs in season. Thirteen years a specialist. Catalogue free. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. S. Berger, Pleasant Hill, Ohio.

POLISH

WHITE-CRESTED BLACK POLISH SHOW birds and breeding stock. None better; few as good. Stock for sale at all times. Eggs in season. Chas. L. Seely, Afton, N. Y.

Martinsburg, W. Va., Show

The show held by the Berkeley County Poultry and Pet Stock Association at Martinsburg, November 29 to December 2, was a decided success in every respect. More than 700 birds of the finest quality were exhibited and the competition was extremely sharp in most classes. The feature of the show was the display of Buff Orpingtons. Mr. W. D. Corder, of Philippi, W. Va., won the silver cup for the best bird in the show on a cock of this variety that had won similar honors as a cockerel at Madison Square Show last year.

The White and Black varieties far exceeded the Buffs in number and almost equalled them in quality, making in all a splendid display of this popular breed. The single exhibit that attracted most attention was an immense Bronze turkey tom weighing 60 pounds and his mate, a hen of the same variety, weighing 22 pounds.

The work of Judge Webb in placing the awards gave universal satisfaction and all exhibitors and visitors from a distance expressed themselves as well pleased with the show. The offer of four barrels and twenty boxes of Berkeley County apples to exhibitors from outside the State, proved to be a novel drawing card and attracted many exhibitors.

Professor Horace Atwood, who was present and on Friday night delivered a lecture on “How to make more money from our poultry,” to a large and attentive audience, pronounced the show the best he had ever seen in West Virginia.

The show was a success financially as well as in every other respect. All obligations have been met and the Association is preparing to buy coops for the next show, so that its continuance is an assured fact. It will be the policy of the association to build up a show that will be noted for its quality rather than its quantity and to that end its energies will be directed in the future. The following is the official list of winners:

Awards at Martinsburg, W. Va.

PLYMOUTH ROCKS—BARRED: Ck 1, hen 1, John E. Osborne; ckl 1, hen 2 and 3, Carl Riddickberger; pul 1, Brish Bros.; ck 2, pul 2, Joseph S. Frye; hen 2, ck 3, ckl 3 and 4, pul 3 and 4, pen 1, D. P. Lemaster; hen 3 and 4, Geo. W. Appleby. **BUFF:** Ck 1, hen 2, pul 4, Taylor H. Jefferson; ckl 1, Daniel Arnica; hen 1, pul 1, Brish Bros.; ck 2, ckl 2 and 3, pul 2, J. Roy Nadenbousch; ckl 4, pul 3, Wm. Jefferson; ck 3, Ralph Stauby. **WHITE:** Ck 1, 3 and 4, hen 1, Ward McLanahan; ck 2, hen 2 and 4, Geo. W. Appleby; ckl 1, hen 3, pul 2 and 4, Seibert Small; pul 4, R. E. Lee; pul 1, Mrs. W. N. Dunn; pen 1, J. S. Wagner.

WYANDOTTES—WHITE: Ck 1, ckl 1, 2, 3 and 4, hen 1 and 2, pul 1 and 2, Wm. A. Stewart; hen 3 and 4, W. W. Athey; pul 3, E. H. Newton; pul 4, T. P. Licklider. **COLUMBIAN:** Ck 1, pul 2, Harry S. Seibert; ckl 1, hen 1, pul 1, ck 2, P. F. Suter; hen 2, W. F. Wilt; ck 2, pul 3, W. F. Duke. **BUFF:** Pen 1 and 2, ck 1, hen 1, ckl 2, pul 2, Hetzel Bros.; ckl 1, pul 1, Roy A. Harrison; ck 2, hen 2, D. B. Hudson. **BLACK:** Pul 1, Geo. L. Weaver.

RHODE ISLAND REDS—SINGLE COMB: Ck 1, hen 1, Brish Bros.; ckl 1, Adolph Kogelschatz; pen 1, ck 3, hen 3, Anna Kogelschatz; ck 2, hen 2, ckl 2, H. H. Runkles; ckl 3, M. Gilbert; pen 2, W. A. Gard. **ROSE COMB:** Ckl 1 and 2, pul 1 and 2, Dr. L. F. Hansbrough; hen 1, Brish Bros.

BRAHMAS—LIGHT: Ck 1, J. C. Carson. **LANGSHIANS—BLACK:** Ckl 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, Hetzel Bros.; ck 2, hen 2, 3 and 4, pen 1, Carl Menifee.

LEGHORNS—S. C. WHITE: Ck 1, pul 1, hen 3, J. P. Billmyre; ckl 1, 3 and 4, hen

2, ck 4, pul 2, pen 1, Hetzel Bros.; hen 1 and 4, ckl 2, J. C. Carson; ck 2, pul 3, J. F. Whitmore; ck 3, J. S. Wagner; pul 4, A. M. Stauby; pen 2, C. M. Snapp. **S. C. BROWN:** Ck 1, hen 3, J. F. Hawvermale; hen 1, 2 and 4, ck 2, W. N. Dunn; ckl 1, C. R. Young; pul 1 and 2, C. Entler; ck 3, R. S. Bouie; ckl 2, pul 3, A. Kogelschatz, Jr. **R. C. BROWN:** Hen 1 and 2, Brish Bros.; R. C. BUFF: Ck 1, ckl 2, C. B. Conrad. **S. C. BUFF:** Ckl 2, Sam Bowers; ck 1, John Berger; hen 1 and 3, pul 1 and 3, Chester Kepner.

MINORCAS—R. C. BLACK: Ck 1, hen 1, J. A. Phillips; ckl 1, pul 1, Brish Bros.; ckl 2 and 3, hen 2, pul 2, pen 1, Hetzel Bros.; ck 2, hen 4, J. E. Michael. **S. C. BLACK:** Ck 1, hen 1, pul 2, pen 4, M. Gilbert; ckl 2 and 3, J. A. Phillips.

ANCONAS: Ck 1, hen 1, pul 1, B. N. Bain; ckl 1, W. F. Wilt; ck 2, hen 2, Brish Bros.; ckl 2, pul 2, W. W. Athey; ckl 3, pul 3 and 4, D. T. Thornburg.

SPANISH—W. F. BLACK: Ck 1, hen 1, R. S. Bouie.

ORPINGTONS—S. C. WHITE: Ckl 2 and 3, hen 1 and 4, pul 1, ck 2 and 3, J. C. Carson; ck 1, hen 2, pul 3, pen 1, P. H. Martin; ck 4, pul 1, 2 and 4, hen 3, ckl 3, R. D. Lillie. **S. C. BUFF:** Ck 1, hen 1 and 4, ckl 1, pul 1, 2 and 3, W. D. Corder; ck 2, hen 2, Brish Bros.; ck 3, W. B. Licklider; pen 1, F. C. Foreman; hen 3, Harwood Burkhardt; ck 4, J. Brown; pul 4, Berkeley Fairfax. **R. C. BLACK:** Hen 1, ck 1, Brish Bros. **S. C. BLACK:** Ckl 1 and 2, ck 1, hen 3 and 4, pul 2 and 3, R. D. Lillie; hen 2, ck 4, pul 4, P. H. Martin; hen 1, ck 2, ckl 3, Brish Bros.

POLISH—W. C. BLACK: Hen 1, 2, 3 and 4, pul 1 and 3, ckl 1, ck 3, pen 1, A. Kogelschatz, Jr.; ck 1 and 2, R. E. Lee; ckl 2, pul 2, Walter S. Gibney.

HAMBURG—S. S. Ck 2, hen 2, R. S. Bouie; ckl 2, pul 2, D. T. Thornburg.

HOUDANS—Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, Walter S. Gibney; ck 2, W. B. Licklider; pen 1, hen 2, 3 and 4, ckl 2, Ward McLanahan.

GAMES—B. B. RED: Ck 1, pen 1, Hetzel Bros. **CUBAN:** Ckl 1, pul 1, J. J. Young. **JUNGLE:** Ckl 1, pul 1, J. J. Young. **BLACK:** Hen 1, B. B. Hudson. **BLUE:** Hen 1, B. B. Hudson. **PIR:** Ck 1, hen 1, Carl Menifee. **CORNISH INDIAN:** Ck 1, hen 1, W. S. Gibney.

FRIZZLES—BLACK: Ck 1, pul 1, James Brown.

BRACKLE DE OR—Ckl 1, pul 1, Brish Bros.

BANTAMS—WHITE COCHIN: Ckl 1, pul 2, pen 1, L. E. Young; ck 1, pul 1, Brish Bros. **BLACK COCHIN:** Pen 1, pul 1, ckl 2, L. E. Young; ck 2, hen 3, Brish Bros.; ck 1, ckl 1, hen 1 and 2, Adolph Kogelschatz. **RED:** Ckl 1 and 2, pul 1 and 2, J. W. Dodd. **LEGHORN:** Ck 1, hen 1, D. M. Ramsey. **BUFF COCHIN:** Hen 1, pul 1, Brish Bros. **PARTRIDGE COCHIN:** Ckl 1, pul 1, Brish Bros. **LIGHT BRAHMA:** Ckl 1, pul 1, Brish Bros. **GOLDEN SEABRIGHT:** Ck 1, hen 1, Brish Bros. **BLACK TAIL JAP:** Ck 1, hen 1, Brish Bros. **SILVER DUCKWING:** Ck 1, hen 1, Brish Bros.

TURKEYS—BRONZE: Tom 1, hen 1, W. M. Jefferson; tom 2 and 3, hen 2 and 3, Harwood Burkhardt.

DUCKS—PEKIN: Drake 1 and 2, hen 1, A. B. Cross; hen 2, drake 3, Harwood Burkhardt; hen 3, B. F. Hawvermale; drake 4, hen 4, Ward McLanahan. **INDIAN RUNNER:** Pen 1, John Nadenbousch. **WILD MALLARD:** Pen 1, A. M. Stauby.

PIGEONS—WHITE HOMER: Hen 1, ck 1, H. J. Little. **JOHNSON GIANTS:** Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, H. J. Little. **HOMERS:** Pairs 1 and 2, J. S. Frye.

RABBITS—WHITE BELGIANS: Buck 1, Dorothy Locke. **GREY BELGIANS:** Buck 1, Francis Henshaw; doe 1, buck 2, J. J. Foley.

Special silver cup prizes as follows: C. T. Riddleberger—Barred Plymouth Rock cockerel, best in American class. Hetzel Brothers—Langshan cock, best in Asiatic class. J. P. Billmyre—Single Comb White Leghorn pullet, best in Mediterranean class. W. D. Corder—Buff Orpington cock, best in English class. A. Kogelschatz—White Crested Black Polish pullet, best in Polish class. W. S. Gibney—Houdan hen, best in French and German class. W. S. Gibney—Cornish Indian Game, best bird in Game and Game Bantam class. Brish Brothers—White Cochins Bantam cock, best in Ornamental Bantam class.

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C. L. PARKHURST, Mansfield, Ohio

Awards at Falls Church, Va.

PLYMOUTH ROCKS—BARRED: Pul 3, pen 2, John W. Crane; hen 1, ckl 2, pul 1, Gleu Annie; ck 1, hen 2 and 3, pen 1, \$5 special best exhibit. E. D. Talty; ckl 1 and 3, pul 2, 1st log of Southern Planters' Cup, best B. R. cockerel, also silver cup, best cockerel in show, Harry Myers; ck 2, M. K. Stroud. **WHITE:** Pul 2, Harry Myers; pul 1, Hutchison Heitmiller; hen 1 and 2, pen 2, Demorest Poultry Yards; ck 1, pul 3, R. E. Lee; ckl 1, pen 3, Wm. F. Yates; pen 1, C. M. Walker. **BUFF:** Ck 1, ckl 1, pul 1, pen 1, A. H. Kirk.

WYANDOTTES—SILVER: Ckl 1, pen 1, J. M. Hamblin. **WHITE:** Ck 1, hen 1, pul 1 and 2, special best display, special best hen in show, all classes competing, Hutchison Heitmiller; ck 2 and 3, ckl 2 and 3, pen 2, special pen, special fourth largest exhibit in show, S. E. Hutton; ckl 1, J. W. Warrington; hen 2, pul 3, pen 3, S. C. Rich; hen 3, pen 1, Chester Pegrum. **PARTRIDGE:** Ckl 1, pul 1, pen 1, R. L. Detwiler. **COLUMBIAN:** Pul 1, E. Paul Swope; ck 1, ckl 1, pul 2 and 3, pen 1, special best display, R. A. Hightower.

BRAHMAS—LIGHT: Ckl 1 and 2, John E. Blot.

RHODE ISLAND REDS—SINGLE COMB: Hen 2, pen 1, 2d special for largest entry, A. H. Berber; ck 2, R. M. Harris; ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, pen 2, special best display, 3d special largest entry, Clifton Farm. **ROSE COMB:** Ck 3, hen 1, pul 2, R. M. Harris; ck 1 and 2, pen 2, A. H. Berber; ckl 1, pul 1, ck 2, hen 2, pen 1, Clifton Farm.

ORPINGTONS—S. C. BUFF: Hen 1, ck 3, ckl 3, pul 3, Hutchison Heitmiller; ck 1, John Smithdeal; ckl 1, hen 3, pul 1 and 2, O. K. Hale; ckl 2, ck 2, Jos. D. Foley; pen 1, Van A. Zahn. **S. C. BLACK:** Ck 1, pul 1 and 2, special best display in class, special best pullet in show, all classes competing, S. E. Hutton; ckl 1, John Smithdeal. **S. C. WHITE:** Ckl 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, ck 1 and 2, pul 1, 2 and 3, pen 1 and 2, special largest display in entry, special best pullet in class, special best cockerel in class, special best cock in show, all classes competing, J. J. Hoskell & Co.; pen 3, B. E. Hutchison; hen 3, Geo. B. Smith; ck 3, R. E. Backenstotts.

LEGHORNS—S. C. WHITE: Ckl 2 and 3, J. A. Albrecht; pen 2, Dr. H. E. Mott; pen 1, Elmer W. Perrigo; ckl 1, ck 1, hen 1, pul 1, special best display, M. K. Stroud. **S. C. BROWN:** Pen 1, Geo. R. Kelling; ck 1, hen 2, pul 1, ckl 1 and 2, special best display, Loo & Dixon.

MINORCAS—S. C. BLACK: Ckl 2 and 3, John N. Anderson.

HOUDANS—Pen 1, Paul C. Bischoff.
BLUE ANDALUSIANS—Hen 1, Miss Ada Rhodes.

BANTAMS—B. B. R. GAME: Hen 1, special child's display, Porks Pegram Duffy. **BUFF COCHIN:** Ckl 1, ck 1, hen 1, pul 1, pen 1, special best exhibit of Bantams, Harry Myers.

DUCKS—INDIAN RUNNER: Drake 1, B. E. Hutchison. **BLACK MUSCOVY:** Drake 1, duck 1, A. H. Barber.

TURKEYS—BRONZE: Tom 1, hen 1, A. M. Lothrop.

PHEASANTS—SILVER: Ck 1, hen 1, A. M. Lothrop. **ENGLISH:** Ck 1, hen 1, A. M. Lothrop.

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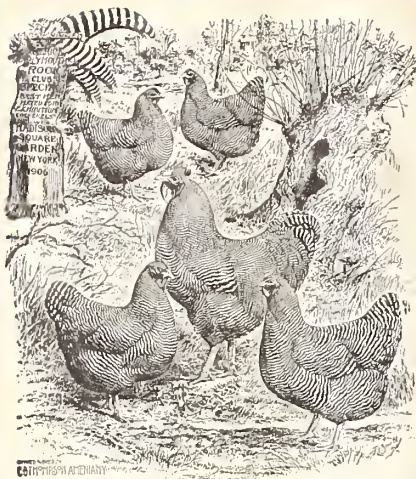
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TIMELY TOPICS

(By Plummer McCullough, Mercer, Pa.)

In the American Poultry World we are informed that the "Non-Fading" Question of R. I. Reds is to be fully investigated."

We quote the following from the editorial: "It is learned that the action taken by the Executive Board of the A. P. A. at Denver, last August, with reference to the protest filed by C. L. Buschman, of Indianapolis, Ind., charging the Executive Committee of the R. I. Red Club of America with unjustly attacking his business methods and personal integrity was not final—did not mean that no further attention was to be paid to the matter by the A. P. A. On the contrary, President Hicks considers that the matter shall rest in the hands of the Executive Board until Mr. Buschman is exonerated or until it has been proven to the majority of the board that Non-Fading R. I. Reds do not exist."

This is good news and I am glad that Mr. Buschman is going to get a square deal by the A. P. A. To any of our readers who have not been following up the matter I wish to say that the R. I. Red Club of America has objected to C. L. Buschman and his associate, Judge W. C. Pierce, advertising a strain of "Non-Fading" Reds. The Red Club claims that a "Non-Fading" strain is impossible and on the other hand Messrs. Buschman and Pierce claim that they have the goods. They don't claim that every bird hatched or bred from their eggs or birds will be "Non-Fading," but they do claim that a large per cent of them will be "Non-Fading." In my opinion I believe Messrs. Buschman and Pierce are in the right of this matter. We often see breeders of white fowls advertise a "stay white" strain, and breeders of Buff varieties "solid buff," and we hear no protests. I am inclined to think that the R. I. Red Club of America has some members that are somewhat sore at Buschman and Pierce. If this is the case it is certainly unwise to take revenge in this way. If a club is what it ought to be it will help its members and not get jealous because some member is a step in advance of the rest. I am not saying that this is the condition of affairs in the R. I. Red Club of America, but certainly there is something wrong or they would not have gone at this matter in a blind-like way.

From the American Poultry Journal we learn that A. F. Hunter is no longer editor of Profitable Poultry, a journal published at Boston. We intended to include this journal among our list for 1912, but if Mr. Hunter is not in their ranks, I will have to say nixie.

H. P. Schawb, in American Poultry Journal, says the following is splendid to add weight and hurry maturity to the young birds: 1 pound boiled rice, 1 pound bread soaked in skimmed milk, and ¼ pound Hamburg steak. This is for one special feed at night each day, and is excellent for putting the finishing touches on birds intended for exhibition.

In a leading contemporary we see the statement, "You can not breed fowls intelligently without a copy of the American Standard of Perfection." We would like to add to the above that it is impossible to breed fowls intelligently with an American Standard of Perfection, if all things said about this book are true.

Some of the leading journals use up a lot of valuable space in publishing free reading notices. Personally we have very little use for free readers. If the advertising space of a journal is worth the price it should not be necessary to throw in free readers, and when a subscriber pays out his cash for his subscription the journal has no right to fill up its reading columns with free reading notices. This is not what subscribers pay for.

Rev. Edgar Warren says the following dry mash is a very good one, and I can heartily agree with him, as I have tried it with success: Bran, 200 pounds; cornmeal, 100 pounds; middlings, 100 pounds; gluten meal, 100 pounds; fish or beef scrap, 100 pounds. To this can be added a small quantity of salt and charcoal if desired.

In selecting our breeding birds for 1912, let us not forget to look for health and vigor in every specimen, and throw out every bird that shows signs of poor health or a weak constitution. Nothing is more important than this, and it should receive the careful attention of every poultryman.

We are considerably interested in several egg-laying contests now going on and among these is the one conducted at the Missouri Experiment Station. From the columns of the American Poultryman we have learned that there are six hundred and fifty-five hens in pens, and one hundred and thirty-one, as substitutes, that are entering this contest that are now at work trying to outclass their neighboring varieties.

For the first two weeks a pen of Cornish Indians and a pen of White Orpingtons have made the best records. Only an egg or two behind are the S. C. R. I. Reds, S. C. White Leghorns, Barred Rocks and S. C. Black Orpingtons.

A Cornish Indian hen has laid two eggs in one day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Three hens have laid an egg every day since the contest began; one was a Columbian Plymouth Rock, another a R. I. Red, and the third a Barred Rock.

The largest hen in the contest is a White Langshan, and the smallest hen in the contest is a S. S. Hamburg, which weighs only 1¼ pounds. The houses used are of the colony type, shed roof and open front, protected by an old-fashioned window shutter.

The grains used for feeding consist of wheat, cracked corn and oats. Hoppers are hung in each house and the hens have free access to a dry mash made up of wheat bran, middlings, cornmeal, O. P. oilmeal, gluten meal, alfalfa meal, dry beef scraps, rolled oats, charcoal and salt. Grit, oyster shells and granulated bone are also kept in hoppers.

Trap nests are used in every pen and a very accurate record of each pen and each individual in every pen is being kept. Surely this will be a very helpful and interesting contest and we hope to have more to say about it in the future.

Occasionally you may find a man that feeds his hens too much, but very seldom. When you do it is a case of feeding in the wrong way instead of an excess of the quantity of food.

Farmers and Poultry Breeders send your...

Produce, Turkeys, Chickens, Eggs, Etc.

...TO...

R. L. PORTER & CO.

COMMISSION MERCHANTS

15 W. Pratt Street

Baltimore, Md.

You will get the highest possible prices, together with fair treatment

We deal particularly in Chickens, Eggs, Turkeys, Hides, Furs, Calves and Produce

TURKEYS and other Fowls for table use especially wanted

Barrel Oystermen—write us



Exercise Those Hens

Exercise and sanitation will make your birds healthy and vigorous—make your hens lay more eggs. In days before specialized poultry culture, the flocks ran at large and got their exercise in daily searching and scratching for food, avoiding unsanitary surroundings. But for the modern, money-making poultryman, the old customs would spell failure. They are impossible. But no less certain is failure, where the flock is confined, unless exercise and clean yards are supplied. What is your alternative?

USE THE WHEEL PLOW—

Iron Age, No. 11, for turning up new, sweet soil for scratching. You and every other poultryman need one—costs only \$2.50—Iron Age quality. With extra attachments you can do your own garden cultivating. Ask your dealer to show it. Write us for special booklets today. Complete line of farm, garden and orchard tools. Bateman Mfg Co. Box 3003 Grenloch, N. J.

More often you find a man who does not feed enough. I have yet to find a successful egg producer that is a light feeder.

Judge Chas. T. Cornman has a splendid article in the Poultry Item on "Selecting Show Birds." Judge Cornman says: "Always select the birds nearest to standard shape. Many will sacrifice everything for color. I want to say if you do not have shape you have nothing."

"Select birds nearest standard color and here you have a difficult problem, for in some instances you can study your standard as close as you possibly can and can not satisfy yourself as to the desired color, but use your good horse sense and do the best you can. Watch your head points carefully, for nothing catches the judge's eye quicker than a well-shaped head with good eyes, comb and wattles. See that the birds are properly conditioned, for condition is half the battle. Many an inferior bird in 'bang-up' condition carefully groomed has won over better ones that have been grossly neglected along these lines. Go in the show room determined to win, but if you don't win keep the smile on your face, for any one can win, but it takes a true fancier and sportsman to lose gracefully."

D. Lincoln Orr, in R. P. J., says he would rather have one of the catalogues put out by the incubator houses than any system book which costs 50 cents or \$1. Now, Link, do you mean this for a whack at the system books or an ad for the incubator companies?

The Poultry Item is getting very serious about the soliciting editor-judging question. So much so that she takes up space for two editorials in the December number. In part the Item says: "We know that some advertising solicitors, prominently identified with poultry papers, have offered their services, free of charge, to judge certain poultry shows. Now, gentlemen, this judging question is a serious thing and ever since we heard of this thing we have been trying to fathom out how, under the sun, an honest judge can compete with this kind of competition; men drawing salaries from their respective publications, enough to live on and more besides,

then offering their services, free of charge, to a poultry show to judge. Now, Mr. Judge, consider this. This is the kind of competition you are up against. This is the kind of competition that is unfair to you, to your family, to your poultry show and to the poultry industry, and even to the publication which the man works for. Do away with the soliciting-editor judges entirely and it will help to solve the problem. Let our good judges who are making a profession of judging do the judging and the soliciting-editor who is paid for soliciting and editing, let him keep hands off!" This is the substance of the first editorial, but it is closely followed by another which reads in part as follows: "Now, since the judging question is squarely before the poultrymen and not considered a joke as Messrs. Purvis and Curtis seemed to think, we believe that the A. P. A. will pass the resolution at the next meeting. The sentiment against editors judging is strong and we have received letters from almost every State endorsing the stand taken by Poultry Item, that soliciting editors shall not judge at any A. P. A. shows. We believe there is enough evidence that soliciting-editor judges should not be employed and we know of some exhibitors who are steering clear of shows where they judge. We believe that any one connected with a poultry journal should not judge at an A. P. A. show or even at any show. We believe that there are enough good judges outside of the editorial ranks to judge every show in our country, and some besides, and furthermore we believe, when this is brought before the A. P. A., at its next meeting, it is going to be passed and we believe every thoughtful exhibitor will vote for it."

Friends, this judging question is rather a serious question. If this resolution is adopted it will make a big change in the judging circle. Entirely too big a change for the good of the Standard bred poultry business. It is true that a judge who is connected with poultry journals should not be allowed to solicit advertising or subscriptions, or to represent the journal that he is connected with at any show where he judges but to go and forbid them from judging just because they are editors is certainly not a square deal. Editors are allowed to hold

offices in the A. P. A. and help make the Standards that we judge by and then why, in the name of common sense, should they be forbidden to put into execution, in the show room, the Standard that they help to make? People are going at this judging business as if they were blindfolded. They don't realize what they are about to do. The man that is editing or publishing a poultry journal is doing just as much for the poultry industry as the man that is a breeder of Standard bred fowls. Possibly more. Then, if he is competent, why has the A. P. A. a right to forbid him to judge? I believe that most of our judges are honest, including our "solicitor-editor judges," if you please, and if a man is honest, he will place what he considers the best bird in the class first, regardless of whether the owner is an advertiser in his journal or not. This will cut no ice at all if the judge is honest and upright. What the A. P. A. should do is to stop editor-judges from representing their own paper in any way at the shows where they are employed as a judge, but the A. P. A. should not prohibit a man from judging just because he is an editor of, or is connected with some poultry journal or any other journal. People don't seem to realize that if this resolution is adopted it will put a large per cent of our very top-notch judges out of business. In looking over the list of judges at the late Madison Square Garden show, nearly half of our very best judges that are on this list are in some capacity connected with poultry journals. When the A. P. A. passes a resolution to put such men as Theo. Hewes, Geo. D. Holden, Frank Heck, Miller Purvis, H. P. Schawb, W. C. Denny, Geo. H. Burgott, A. O. Schilling, J. H. Devensstedt, Thos. F. Rigg, A. C. Smith, F. L. Sewell, D. Lincoln Orr, Frank L. Platt, Theo. F. Jaeger and a number of others out of business, she is taking a step backward and not forward, and I want to tell you that it is a big step backward, too. We need these men as judges and we also need them as writers. They are doing a good work, then why try to check it? The Item says, "Let the professional man do the judging." How many men in this country of ours are making poultry judging a business? This judging only lasts three or four months in a year and I would respect a man more who went to work on a poultry journal than one who laid around all summer waiting for the next judging season to come. I don't believe there is a man in the United States that is making poultry judging his sole occupation or business. I don't think there is a single one. I may be mistaken in this, but don't believe I am. Again I wish to say that A. P. A. members had better be careful how they vote for this resolution. Vote against it by all means. Keep such judges in the ring; you need them. If you put them out you will give the Standard bred poultry business one of the hardest blows it has ever received.

Poultry Review says the following about culling that is very timely: "If you are particular about keeping your growing stock up to the requirements of the Standard of Perfection you will find it necessary to cull closely. Now and then you will find a bird with undesirable traits, as an off-colored feather or an off-colored shank. These birds make excellent broilers or roasters and will bring you in good return for your care, but it's better to sell them than to keep them. If you want your flock to conform as nearly as possible to standard requirements many sacrifices will have to be made. A bird with many excellent points may have to go if you find that he has one disqualify-

ing feature. The best are none too good for the enthusiastic fancier and if you keep your flock up to Standard you will not regret it in years to come, for as you breed from year to year, you will be getting better birds with each successive season."

If breeders in general and amateurs in particular would put the above into practice each season, it would do much toward helping them to raise more good birds and not so many culls. "Like begets like," and if we breed from disqualified birds we are sure to raise some with the same defects from their mating.

Now is an excellent time to make some brood coops and colony houses for next spring's use. We never have enough of these, and if made during the winter the time will never be missed.

John H. Robinson, of Farm Poultry, has an article in December number, entitled "What About the National Poultry Association?" Mr. Robinson says: "Nominally there has been a National Poultry Association for some three years, but we have never been able to learn that it has held a single meeting. As projected the promoter and president of the association was the whole thing in it," etc. Mr. Robinson has about half a page about this matter that is interesting reading. We can not take space to reprint it, but Mr. John H. has pretty much the same views as the writer. He also says: "If he is using the organization for his personal advantage the public has a right to know it. The present situation of the National Poultry Association is one that should not be allowed to continue. If there is a National Poultry Association, of which Mr. Townsend is president, which has members enough to hold a meeting, it was time a meeting was called. If it can not do this then it is time that those responsible for it should quit exploiting it."

Good, John. We hope this will make some of our people sit up and take notice. If the National Poultry Association is doing such great things it has no right to keep them a secret. If tests are carried on each year the public has a right to know of them without buying a system book.

CAW-LAW POULTRY FARM ROSEDALE, MD.

At Baltimore, 1912, we won on Indian Runner Ducks; 1st Old Duck, 1st and 2nd Young Duck, 1st and 2nd Young Drake.

White Indian Runners; 1st Old Duck, 1st Old Drake, 1st Young Duck, 1st Young Drake. Silver Cup for best young fawn and white Runner Duck.

Book your orders now for baby chicks, ducklings and eggs; Barred, White and Partridge Rocks; White and Columbian Wyandottes; Leghorns; Anconas; Black Minorcas and Orpingtons; Pekin and Indian Runner Ducks. EGGS GUARANTEED 80% FERTILE.

FOR SALE

Extra fine Barred Rock Cockerels; R. I. Red Hens, Pullets and Cocks; Partridge Rock Cock, and five varieties of pigeons.

LIGHT UP!

You can transform any kerosene (coal oil) lamp or lantern into dazzling brilliancy with our wonderful **Bright Light Burner**. 50 candle power invisible and **unbreakable Steel Mantle**. Brighter than electricity, better than gas or gasoline, and **perfectly safe**. No generating—simply light like any kerosene lamp. Nothing to get out of order. Positively will not smoke or flicker.

AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE. Sells like wildfire. An opportunity of a life time, work all or spare time. Experience unnecessary. Make big money—be independent. Write today. Act quick—territory going fast. Complete sample, post-paid, 30c, 4 for \$1.00. Money back if not satisfactory.

BRIGHT LIGHT CO., Dept. 387, Grand Rapids, Mich.



WINNING WHITE WYANDOTTES

Our birds are winning consistently at the leading shows including Hagerstown, Philadelphia and Baltimore in competition with the leading breeders of the East and can do the same for you.

Stock and Eggs For Sale. Satisfaction Guaranteed.

FAIRVIEW POULTRY FARM, ERNEST R. A. LITZAU, STATION "D," BALTIMORE, MD.

McCullough's White Plymouth Rocks

are U. R. Fishel's strain direct—wonderful layers—unequalled as market fowls. They have been prominent winners under such judges as A. F. Kummer, H. A. Emmell, H. P. Schawb and the late T. E. Orr. They are farm-raised and farm-bred for health and vigor, shape and color. Bargains in stock now, especially in cockerels. Circular free

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Box F - - - - - Mercer, Pa.

EGGS—FOR HATCHING—EGGS

S. C. Buff Orpington

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Baby Chicks

Our catalogue is Free.

Don't Place your order until you get it.

Save time and money by getting the best at let live prices.



HOAG POULTRY FARM

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OKLA.

Since writing our January Timely Topics we are pleased to learn that the National Poultry Association is quietly doing things without any "fuss and feathers." From an advance item in President Townsend's 1911 report we find that in addition to the valuable and interesting tests which he is conducting—wholly at his own expense, by the way—he has brought the express companies to time over and again. Breeders shipping eggs or stock have long been at the mercy of these fellows. They killed or injured birds and smashed eggs with impunity, and laughed or grew insulting if asked to settle.

In the interest of all shippers, President Townsend, who is also a civil and criminal judge, devised a way to make these fellows settle.

The result is they no longer laugh. They pay! If you are a breeder and wish to know how it is done, write President Townsend at Weedsport, N. Y., and he will be glad to tell you, charging for the information.

Does white in earlobes of Plymouth Rocks disqualify? According to the Standard it does, but we have noticed two of the winning birds at shows where I visit, had considerable white in earlobes. It was so noticeable to the writer that he could see it without taking the birds out of the coop. Possibly the judge did not see it, but he surely did not look for it, or he could easily have noticed it. Both judges were good ones and men who try to be honest, but it goes to show that no judge is so good or well read that he does not make mistakes.

In R. P. J., D. Lincoln Orr writes: "If Mr. McCullough, who writes for the Feather, would take the trouble to investigate the utility side of Columbian Wyandottes, he would not make such glaring mistakes, as it is on this one point the Columbian excels."

Well, now, Mr. Orr, while it is true I have never made any special effort to hunt up the utility qualities of the Columbian Wyandottes, I always have been a careful reader of the poultry press, and if the Columbian Wyandottes have ever made any great records—have ever done anything more than other varieties, I have failed to notice it.

My article on "Some Neglected Varieties" has brought me two letters from prominent Dominique breeders; one from Dr. W. H. Harwood, who is secretary and treasurer of the National American Dominique Club, and another from A. Q. Carter, who is president of the club. Both thank me for my remarks on the American Dominique. Dr. Harwood writes that the Dominique men are doing much better than I am aware of. Possibly that is true. I hope they are, but I know there is great room for work yet in bringing the American Dominique into greater popularity. I have not seen an American Dominique at a show I have visited this winter, and this should not be. The breeders of American Dominiques should exhibit them more, advertise them more and let the world know that you have a variety worth keeping. They are a grand old breed and I hope to see them prosper. Dr. Harwood says they are superior to any variety he ever bred for eggs and meat and the doctor is also breeding Columbian Wyandottes. Possibly some time I will give the American Dominique fanciers a special article on their favorites.

However, I don't wish to be misunderstood about Columbian Wyandottes. They are no doubt an excellent variety, at least some strains of them. It is often more in the strain than the breed or variety.

THE White Leghorn an Egg Machine By C. L. PARKHURST

The Leghorn fowl is a living proof of that terse adage, "merit wins." This breed of fowls gets little boosting, but she "pops" up in the advertising columns, and she is a business hen all over this broad land. She is laying the gilt edge egg, and steadily advances to the front, where she wins on her merit. She is not the fancier's fowl nor the table fowl, but is simply an egg machine. I keep her for the same reason that 90 per cent of others do, for profit, as profit is the ultimate object of keeping fowls, and the White Leghorn fills the bill, for she is certainly an egg machine, and she is a beauty among fowls. Tastes differ. While some like fowls of a different build, others prefer birds of the Mediterranean class, with their graceful curves, quick glancing eye and light, quick movements. We who are lovers of the White Leghorn admire everything in their class, because of those qualities which combine business and beauty. Choose the White Leghorn. She is a beauty, her chalky whiteness, yellow legs and large red combs make an attractive appearance. Then again those white eggs that we are getting 55 and even 60 cents a dozen for count.

One should keep very near the standard. While on large egg farms the pullets can not be culled very closely for points, the cocks and cockerels used for breeders can be, and should be, near the Standard. No dark-legged, squirrel-tailed, brassy bird should be allowed on the farm. The shapely, graceful bird, with good comb, chalky white plumage, sweeping sickles and tall coverts, makes the gallant, handsome fellow who is proud of himself, as the representative of the egg type, and is the begetter of the business hen. While for table qualities the Leghorn does not make a specialty, nevertheless she is an excellent table fowl, though small compared with some of the larger breeds. A Leghorn cockerel is a young American in feathers; his cheeriness and general activeness produce a "freshness" that is attractive. The Leghorn fowls give the largest returns for the smallest outlay, and have the ability to withstand severe climatic conditions. The Leghorn, if bred from a good laying strain, will lay more eggs than any other variety I know of and they commence laying very young. I had Leghorn pullets this year laying every day at the age of four and a half months. The Leghorn is always at work; this keeps them healthy and thrifty. And another important matter is, they are great foragers; they are up at the break of day after a bug or worm, while the lazy large, old, big breed is asleep.

In the winter you can keep 300 Leghorns in a house in which you can not keep over 200 at the most of the large breeds. Leghorns will lay eight or nine months out of twelve. Don't forget to breed vigor into your flock, as it is essential to success. Study your birds to know their type and don't let the Leghorn type get away from you. Cull with a merciless hand, but don't use a female in your breeding pen, however finely marked, unless you are sure she is from a laying strain of a known record. The utility and standard features will go together. The Leghorn holds the same place among poultry that Jersey cattle do among cattle. The question of profit

in poultry has been decided in favor of egg producing breeds. It costs about one-half as much to raise a Leghorn to maturity as it does the Asiatic varieties.

The Single Comb White is the most generally bred, although all the Leghorns are good. I am a specialist in the poultry business and deem it wise to have the best of everything, and therefore believe I have secured the best strain of poultry in the Single Comb White Leghorn. I have had some experience with various breeds, but wanting eggs I have selected the old reliable egg machine, and have chosen the White because they are so pretty. I hear some say: "I can't keep Leghorns because you must keep the house so warm." I don't agree with this, as it has been well established that artificial heat is not beneficial for hens, and it is also an expense of time and money. My hens have none, but they have a good, comfortable house, with no frozen combs while the thermometer goes to 10 and 20 degrees below zero, and right through the coldest weather I get lots of eggs.

Poultry culture today is a very profitable and pleasant work, in which any man or woman with a little capital can engage, for there is a great demand for the products at high prices every day in the year, and with a steady increase of population and commerce, it is certain to grow into an industry which will give far greater returns than any other branch of farming, if properly handled. There is no such thing as competition in this business, as the demand is so great that thousands can engage in the industry and there will be no depreciation in the market prices.

The Leghorn family is without doubt increasing in popularity notwithstanding the many recent additions to the breeds of poultry, and it is a notable fact that breeders of Leghorns are always enthusiastic in praise of their favorites from the Atlantic to the Pacific. There are farms stocked with Leghorns. It is but little more expense to start with good fowls than a flock of mongrels; it requires no more room or time, and it takes no more feed for the thoroughbred than the mongrel, and it is certainly a real pleasure to own a beautiful flock of pure bred fowls. The beauty of a flock of White Leghorns with their snow-white plumage and blood-red combs, properly cared for, means an abundance of large, white eggs at all seasons of the year. Any one wishing to embark in the poultry business, either for the egg market or fancy stock, will make no mistake by starting with a good strain of Single Comb White Leghorns from a reliable breeder.

A Successful Breeder

Mr. Frank Christman, Sellersville, Pa., has made a pronounced success in poultry breeding, and is gaining many friends and admirers in this work. He is proprietor of the Holiday Heights Poultry Farm, so well and favorably known for its superb strain of Single Comb White Leghorns. He has some elegant birds for sale, and those desiring good breeders should write him for prices. He is making a specialty

of eggs for hatching. See the ad. of the Holiday Heights Poultry Farm, Sellersville, Pa.

USE REEVE'S NATURAL CHICK FEED and never lose a chick. Ask your dealer or write CHAS. H. REEVE, 187 Washington St., New York, N. Y.



Once Grown Always Grown

Maule's Seeds

Poultrymen in all sections
pronounce them the best ever

My new Seed Catalogue is a wonder. Contains everything in seeds, bulbs, small fruits and plants worth growing. 600 illustrations; 176 pages. Any poultryman sending his name on a postal card can have it for the asking. Send for it today. Address

WM. HENRY MAULE
1707-09-11 Filbert St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Send 5 cents (stamps) mention this paper, I will enclose in the catalogue a packet of the above GIANT pansy.



Make Your Hens "Lay and Pay"

This is the slogan of the Poultry business, and if your hens do not lay they do not pay. Eggs mean dollars in these times of high prices and the more eggs you get the more dollars you will have.

It is Easy to Get Eggs

If you follow the rules of those who have made a success of the business. There is no reason why a hen should not lay in winter, if she is provided with the elements which make the egg. When these are provided she will produce the eggs.

The Successful Egg-a-Day Condition Powder

Contains these elements, when combined with the food, to make the laziest hen lay her share of eggs. It is a great Laying Tonic and conditioner of hens. Those who have tried it would not be without it—and now is your time to prove it. See the testimonials on back cover page of this number of The Feather. Send for our new free booklet, "Calendar of Poultry Keeping, 1912." Agents wanted. Regular size box, 1½ lbs., 25 cents; by mail, 45 cents. Five boxes, by express or freight, \$1.00. Sample size, ½ lb., 10 cents; by mail, 15 cents.

The Successful Poultry
Remedy Company
WASHINGTON, D. C.

BUSINESS WORLD

For some time there has been appearing in our advertising columns the announcement of the Hen-e-ta Bone Co., of Newark, N. J., and Flemington, W. Va., manufacturers of the Patented "Hen-e-ta" Bone-Grits. The remarkable success of "Hen-e-ta" during the four years which it has been on the market is substantial proof of the value of this product to poultry-raisers. "Hen-e-ta" is being manufactured at two plants, both running day and night at full capacity. Other plants are soon to be erected in other sections of the country. "Hen-e-ta" contains about 30 per cent Tri-Calcium-Phosphate, popularly called "Bone Ash," and it is the contention of the company that when "Hen-e-ta" is fed according to directions given in their Balanced Ration Bulletin, as is done by many of the most successful poulterers in the country, it will save its cost in grains, to say nothing of doing away with costly, disease-laden beef scraps and rotten fish. In other words, 500 pounds of grains plus 150 pounds of "Hen-e-ta" (making a total mixture of 650 pounds complete poultry food) will render just as many pounds of protein assimilable and will carry the same number of birds over the same feeding period as would 650 pounds of grain, fed the "old" way, with oyster-shells, grits, etc. This means that at less cost "Hen-e-ta" produces more and harder-shelled eggs; produces better stamina and vigor; increases fertility in eggs; saves the baby-chicks, and, besides all this, saves the cost of meat, other bone, oyster-shells, other grits, charcoal, fish, etc. The "Hen-e-ta" method feeds "by reason;" all other methods feed "by custom." It is the poulterer who feeds "by custom," who is unable to make ends meet, and who sooner or later retires from the poultry business. In proof of its claims the "Hen-e-ta" Bone Company has received thousands of letters from successful poulterers all over the country. Among the recent ones is a letter from Wheat & Son, famous breeders at Horseheads, N. Y., which reads as follows and from which the heading of this article was taken. It says: "Having used many well-recommended mashers and grits of the most prominent Experimental Stations for the past two years, without receiving the full benefits desired, we were induced to try the 'Hen-e-ta Products' and which we have thoroughly tested during the past nine months. It has proven the most successful feed we have ever used, having produced the best and largest specimen of chicks we have ever raised; the eggs hatching a heavy per cent of sturdy chicks, the kind that live. We cheerfully recommend 'Hen-e-ta' products to all fellow breeders.

"(Signed.) WHEAT & SON."

The "Hen-e-ta" Bone Company does not, however, ask poulterers to try "Hen-e-ta" on faith nor on anyone's say-so. They agree to refund the full purchase price to anyone who uses it according to directions and does not secure the results claimed for it. "Hen-e-ta" is made in four grades:

No. 1, fine; No. 2, medium; No. 3, coarse; No. 4, superfine.

To give it a thorough trial, the 'Hen-e-ta' Bone Company suggests an order of 500 pounds, divided as follows:

USE REEVE'S NATURAL CHICK FEED and never lose a chick. Ask your dealer or write CHAS. H. REEVE, 187 Washington St., New York, N. Y.

100 pounds, No. 1; 200 pounds, No. 2; 100 pounds, No. 3, and 100 pounds No. 4, the total cost of which is \$9, and any reader of this paper can secure it by writing direct to the "Hen-e-ta" Bone Company, at either address given above, and shipment will be made from stock carried nearest to purchaser.

We mean that big red tomato on the front cover page of the Maule Seed Book for 1912. It may not be esthetic, probably is not, but you're sure to see it, and you naturally open the book to see what follows. However, on the back cover page is a beautiful colored plate of the new Crego aster, in all the wonderful coloring of this new candidate for the favor of flower lovers; so the esthetic person can admire the back cover and the matter-of-fact gardener look at the front cover and both be satisfied. Between the front and back covers are 176 large pages descriptive of the seeds and plants which have made the name of Maule a household word among farmers, gardeners and flower growers from the Atlantic to the Pacific and the regions beyond. It may be noted in passing that some of the most valuable varieties of grains and vegetables, as well as many rare and beautiful representatives of the flower kingdom owe their introduction to the enterprise and genius of Mr. Maule. He stands in the very front rank of seedsmen for the first-class quality of his seeds and plants, promptness in filling orders and courtesy in dealing with his customers. His Seed Book for 1912 is one of the catalogues which every farmer and gardener should have. His Motto of "Your money back if not satisfied," has been his policy for years, and is only made possible by the uniformly good quality of the Maule seeds.

Two essentials to success in poultry raising are exercise and sanitation. Both directly affect the chickens' health, vigor and growth; in other words, the profit. Without them failure is certain. In the old time way poultrymen avoided the trouble due to lack of exercise and insanitary surroundings by allowing the chickens

free range. But now, in a well-managed, money-making poultry business, the old shiftless methods are no longer practical. The chickens are confined, and exercise and healthy surroundings are supplied in their quarters.

In view of these facts, let us consider the means of supplying conditions that bring health, vigor and growth. The ground in the yards must be turned over. Spading is impractical because of the labor and expense, and horse plowing is generally impossible or impracticable, which calls forth the question, What then? The Wheel Hoe! The illustration shows it working in a poultry yard, and explains itself. Every poultryman will at once recognize his need of it. It costs only \$2.50, and will pay for itself many times over every year. It is an Iron Age quality is never questioned. You should have this No. 11 Wheel Plow. Ask your dealer to show it. Write Bateman Manufacturing Co., Box 3003, Grenloch, N. J., for special booklets. Complete line of farm, garden and orchard tools.

You will notice that our friend W. L. Hornung runs the same ad this month he did last.

The ad expresses the situation so well that repetition is a good thing. Look the ad over carefully, ponder on the facts he presents you and agree with him in the conclusions drawn.

Mr. Hornung has been at the business long enough to have at his command such an enormous supply of fancy poultry that he can fill any order in any number, to the greatest possible advantage.

You certainly make a mistake if you do not consult him for breeders, exhibition or utility stock.

The prosperity of a nation is largely measured by the health of its people. From a parity of reasoning the fact stands out that whatever adds to the health and vigor of our poultry, stands for its general betterment, which means prosperity for breeders. And it follows as a sequence, that when W. F. Chamberlain, of Kirkwood, St. Louis County, Mo., originated Chamberlain's Perfect Chick Feed (the original dry feed for young chicks), he left an imprint of healthful vigor upon all the millions of birds reared on this perfect product and the markets everywhere are filled with better stock today than would otherwise have been the case.

The subjoined letter from a widely

known Nebraska breeder of high-class White Plymouth Rocks, which we are allowed to copy, tells facts:

Fullerton, Nebr., May 1, 1911.
W. F. Chamberlain Feed Co., St. Louis:

Gentlemen—It gives me great pleasure to write you regarding your various foods for poultry. I have tried several different chick foods and experience the same trouble with all, while in your "Chamberlain's Perfect Chick Feed" I find a very well balanced ration. Your "Mash Feed" is a wonderful egg producer, and all your other poultry foods I have found equally valuable.

C. M. REYNOLDS.

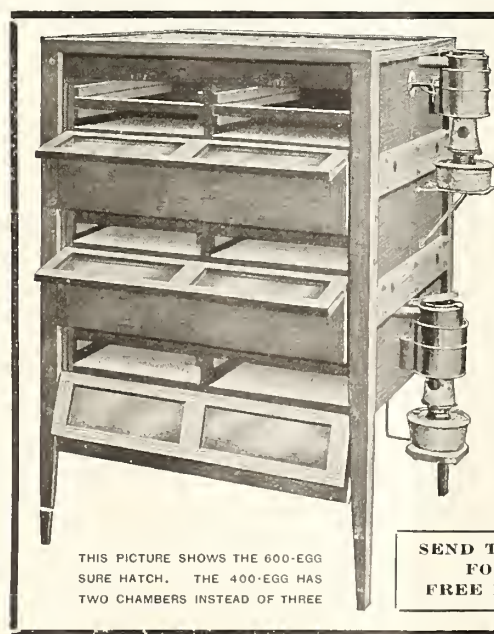
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"HEN-E-TA"—the phosphorus food gets the most eggs with least trouble. Is about
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THIS PICTURE SHOWS THE 600-EGG SURE HATCH. THE 400-EGG HAS TWO CHAMBERS INSTEAD OF THREE

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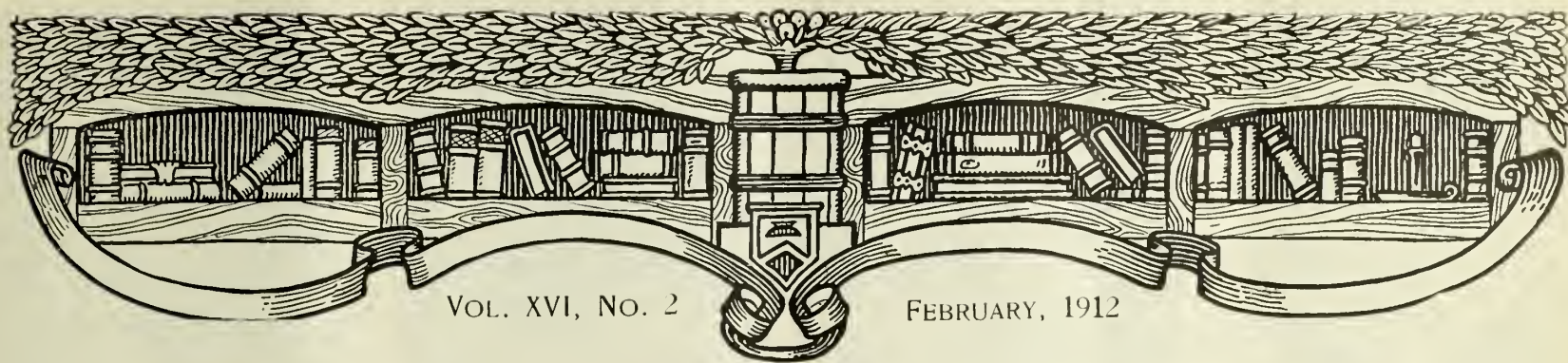
Their method of construction makes them far superior to any other make of equal capacity. Look at the picture of the 600-egg machine on this page and note the economy of floor space; how they are built in sections, one above the other; each is heated with its own lamp and can be run separately from the others; can set 200, 400 or 600 eggs at a time—as you may happen to be fixed for eggs; no waste of heating any more space than necessary to take the number of eggs you want to set. Any of the chambers can be set any time without interfering with either of the others. Can be easily taken apart and re-assembled in a few minutes.

SEVEN SIZES OF SURE HATCH INCUBATORS

Running from 50 to 600-egg, enables us to fit out a beginner, or a city lot dweller, who may want only a few chicks, to the extensive breeder who hatches thousands of them. They are all built on the plans laid down by the U. S. Government and described in Bulletin No. 236. Send for our Catalogue and the Bulletin. Both sent free.

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SURE HATCH INCUBATOR CO.
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Editorial Comment

The result of the last Washington show has been very gratifying to those interested, and the good work done there will surely show its beneficial influences in the near future in this section. The show was a success in every sense of the word, and the promoters are to be congratulated on this happy state of affairs. The foundation is now laid for a permanent show at the Nation's Capital, and it behooves every good breeder or fancier of poultry and pigeons, living in this neighborhood, to get busy for next year's show, January 14-18, 1913. The association is now permanently organized as the Washington National Poultry and Pigeon Association, with offices in this city. As a result of this organization, the Washington Times has this to say editorially:

"The poultry show has been a great success from every point of view, and has attracted thousands of enthusiastic visitors.

"And now comes the announcement that the movement set on foot a year ago to organize a national association of chicken fanciers and breeders for the purpose of giving annual exhibitions in Washington has been carried to a successful conclusion, with George E. Howard as president. It will be known as the Washington National Poultry and Pigeon Association, and its first exhibition has been fixed to extend over a period of five days during the middle of next January.

"Poultry and poultry products have long been recognized as staples which deserve the best attention of breeders. The increase in the cost of living, which is becoming more acute every day, gives a special importance to this matter. There is every reason why the American hen should be cherished more than ever before in her existence.

"Aside from the purely utilitarian aspect of the question, the breeding of fine chickens, pigeons and other domestic birds is a source of the greatest pleasure. There is a positive fascination about it to those who once engage in it.

"All the ends in view can, of course, be furthered to greater advantage through organization, and in this work the Washington National Poultry and Pigeon Association will be a valuable factor. That the general public takes an interest in these exhibitions has been abundantly shown in the past, and the indications are that this interest will be greatly stimulated by the work of the organization which has now been perfected."

* * *

There is every reason for believing that the chirp of the chick will be heard this spring as usual—the calamity criers to the contrary notwithstanding.

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Judging by the imitations of the dancers of the "Turkey trot" we are of the opinion that it is time for the turkey to change its gait.

* * *

The National Egg-Laying Contest at Mountain Grove, Mo., is progressing with every assurance of success. A total of 5,082 eggs were laid by the hens in December, or an increase of 60 per cent over the previous month. This does not include quite a number of eggs laid on the floor, soft shells and unmarketable eggs. One Black Langshan pullet laid 29 eggs in 31 days, and a Buff Orpington pullet and a S. C. Red pullet have laid 50 eggs each in the two months. The greatest number of eggs gathered any one day was 211. For the first seven days of January the ground was covered with snow and the thermometer stood from 4 to 17 below zero. The leading pen for December averaged 22 eggs per hen for 31 days. This entitles Pen No. 103, S. C. Reds, of H. E. Cole, of Winter Park, Fla., to the silver eup for the best pen record for December. This record is nothing startling or anything especially to be boasted of, but we consider it very good for a pen of five birds during the month of December, and inasmuch as the birds came from all climates and all classes of breeders and farmers.

The people down in New Orleans have the right idea for lessening the cost of living. There are from eight to ten thousand families in that thriving city who keep poultry in their back yards. With eggs soaring to the century mark, these people are not only making money but saving it as well. A few hens in the back yards help things along wonderfully in these times, and, besides, one derives a great amount of pleasure in keeping fowls that could not be had otherwise. The city fathers of Washington, of course, are not of this opinion and they have put out of commission a considerable number of embryonic poultry farmers with their new laws on keeping fowls. These new laws are calculated to help restore the nerves of our citizens who can not sleep after seven o'clock in the morning, and to otherwise act as a tonic to those who are timid of the cock's crow or the hen's cackle. Our Commissioners have hardly done a just act to the many other citizens who relish this fancy and have a liking for the strictly fresh, down-to-the-minute laid egg. If poultry is a nuisance it ought to be suppressed—but the entire class should not be discriminated against. Why not license poultry-keeping and suppress it if it becomes a nuisance?

* * *

Some fellows think they are fireproof, when, in fact, a single spark would prove their combustibility.

* * *

When a man has formed the opinion that he is the whole cheese, it is time for some one to take the rind off.

* * *

Every knock is a boost provided it is done by your most devout enemy.

* * *

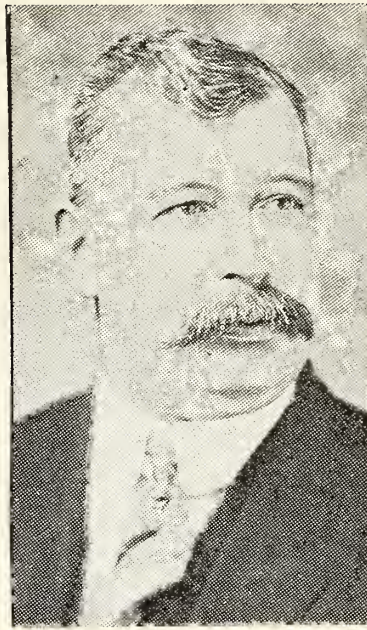
The great American hen is coming in for her share of glory. The daily papers and magazines have begun to note her extreme value in this world of important events, and saying all kinds of nice things about her. One of the leading dailies tells us that fifteen months of her work would pay off the National debt, and that all the gold and silver produced in the world during the year are not equal in value to her eggs. If the hen would work for one year for the children of the United States alone, she would more than pay the entire cost of their public school education in every State in the Union for two years. This sort of reasoning could go on indefinitely, and completely smother the hen with glory, but it shows what a thing it is to keep plugging away at any proposition. A few years ago it was the "poor, old hen," but now all are taking their hats off to her.



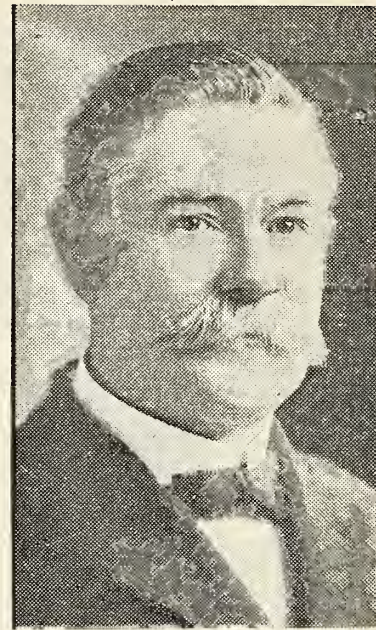
Geo. E. Howard, President



A. M. Keen, Vice President



Wm. C. Gray, Secretary



Edw. S. Schmid, Treasurer

THE WASHINGTON SHOW

January 16, 17, 18 and 19, 1912

THE annual show held at Washington, January 16-19, 1912, was all to the good. It was the most successful show ever held at the Nation's Capital and everybody is loud with praise for the good it will do in this section of the country. A show like the one just held will do more than anything else in promoting the poultry and pigeon interests in this neighborhood.

Washington is the logical show center of our country, and every effort should be made in supporting a live, up-to-date show, for the benefit of the entire poultry interests. Such an event becomes national in its scope. Representatives from every civilized country of the globe are located here, and these same diplomats are keen on live subjects like the poultry interests. Indeed, their reports to their respective governments open many channels for purchases, thereby extending our trade, which could not have been done in any other manner. A show at Washington is far-reaching in its results, and it should be promoted to its fullest extent. Just a little more energy and cooperation on the part of the breeders and fanciers will bring about these results. Begin now for next year.

The hall where the show was held is of a limited capacity, yet, withal, it will do first-rate until a newer hall is to be had. The old Masonic Temple has been the scene of many events, yet it has never had a better aggregation of fine birds than was shown there last month. Every individual specimen seemed to enter into the spirit of the occasion and do itself proud. The classification was large and varied, and anything worth seeing was to be seen in the coops on exhibition. There was no cause of complaint and everybody seemed to get their money's worth.

The terribly cold weather at that time had much to do in keeping at home some star specimens. Notably was the fine entry of the Whealton Game Preserve, of Chincoteague Island, Va. This entry contained some of the rarest specimens of wild

fowl, and would have been a double attraction had it reached the show room. Some of the birds entered were the Black Swan, White Swan, Whistling Swan, Canada Geese, Brant Geese, Wood Ducks, Mandarin Ducks, Pintail Ducks, Wild Black Mallard, Green Head Mallard, Green Wing Teal Ducks and Red Head Ducks. This was the first time that this concern had ever entered their stock at any show, and it was certainly unfortunate that they were hindered by the blizzard. It was simply impossible to get the birds from the island to the mainland for transportation to the show room. Maybe next year they will be here with even a larger and better exhibit than was planned this year.

One of the most attractive features that even the exceptional weather did not keep away was the attendance. As soon as the doors were opened to the public on Tuesday morning there was a stream of people entering from all sections, and this was kept up until Friday night, when the show closed. As a matter of fact, there were any number of people applying for admission on Saturday. It was a remarkable attendance for this show and was an encouraging bit of news for the next year's event. Such an attendance is conclusive proof of the rapid growth of interest in the poultry and pigeon industries of this section, and if it continues it will help to solve the question of higher prices for living in a most satisfactory manner.

This year's show was managed by the Washington Poultry and Pigeon Association, through the following board of directors: Geo. E. Howard, president; A. M. Keen, vice president; W. C. Gray, secretary; Edward S. Schmid, treasurer; Harry M. Lamon, correspondent, and E. C. Duffy, superintendent. These gentlemen did their utmost to make everyone feel at home during the week, and to otherwise cement the bonds of friendship with attending exhibitors and breeders. Through their untiring efforts everyone seemed happy to be present, and the vote of thanks tendered them was unanimous.

The judging was done by Messrs. A. E. Warner, Harry M. Lamon, E. C. Duffy, Hugh Duffy and W. F. Dismar, assisted by Miss Wilhelmina Reuter. The awards as placed gave general satisfaction, and very little, if any, protesting was done. The usual number of people were made happy by winning the blue, and, of course, there were a corresponding number who were not so fortunate, but declared they would be in it another year as a contestant for the blue ribbon. The usual cash premiums and ribbons were awarded in the open classes to all competing birds. This list of specials was most attractive, and many of the successful ones were loaded down with gifts. It is anticipated that next year's specials will eclipse all previous efforts along these lines. There were many novel features of the show that helped entertain the public.

Barred Plymouth Rocks were present with much quality and maintained their standing in the community. The first cock, first hen and first cockerel exhibited by O. C. Boileau were extremely fine birds and were well placed. The first pullet of E. D. Talty was a gem in her class, as was also his first hen. Other birds in these classes were good winners. White Plymouth Rocks were not as strong in numbers as the Barred, but of splendid quality. In the old-bird class J. F. Defandorf won on two grand birds. The first cockerel of D. J. Hoge & Son was an attractive specimen. A. H. Kirk and Geo. B. Smith were the principals in the Buff classes. The Silver, Buff and Golden Wyandottes were not strong in numbers. Henry Hunt, 3d, showed a fine Silver cock and pullet, and Albert Fletcher, Jr., was there with some great Golden. White Wyandottes were there in all their goodness, and it is difficult to find better birds. Mrs. T. W. Turner carried the honor of these birds, winning first hen, first cockerel, first pullet and first pen. It was a genuine treat to see her birds, and there never was a question as to their merit on winning. Ernest R. A. Litzau was a good second on cock, hen and pen. There were other good birds among the winners. G. H.

Boyd had the whole field to himself on his entry of Blacks. Henry J. Hunt, 3d, was a good winner on his Partridge Wyandottes. Columbians was a fine class and ranked next to the Whites in point of numbers. J. F. Defandorf, P. Francis Sutor, B. Alton Smith and Henry Hunt, 3d, were the first winners in the classes. Mr. Defandorf's cockerel was a star, as was also the first pullet of Mr. Smith.

Both the Single and Rose Comb Rhode Island Reds made a fine showing. These birds are steadily growing in favor. The Single classes had some fine specimens, notably the winners of E. W. Monday and Clifton Farm. The first cockerel of Chas. M. Bridges was especially good, both in shape and color. In Rose Combs Clifton Farm scored four firsts on typical specimens of the variety, each winner being entitled to its place.

Orpingtons were the class. These birds made the hit of the show and far out-ranked any other variety, thus demonstrating their popularity. A short while ago these birds were comparatively unknown and very sparingly bred. Today they are leaders and have admirers in all sections as a popular, general purpose and show fowl. The fashion is the Orpington and only years of trial will prove their value to the industry. Single Comb Buffs was a great class and honors were scattered, John Smithdeal being the only one to score two firsts on cock and pen. His winners were all to the good. A. K. Hall won first on a grand hen, both as to shape and color. The first cockerel shown by Fred H. Bletsch was a good winner in a class of six. There were a great many other grand birds in the pens, but, of course, all could not win.

The Single Comb Black Orpingtons were a revelation, and competition was the fiercest. In point of numbers the Blacks led all other classes of the show, and it is evident that they are gaining in public esteem. J. S. Houpt won first on cock, and Charles W. Hulfish was winner on first cockerel. The judges saw these winners and placed the blue on them; many thought them grand specimens in their classes. Chas. L. Hall carried off first honors on hen and pullet, with specimens above reproach. His line of females are there with the Orpington characteristics. Geo. B. Smith was winner up on pens, and he has every reason to feel proud of his winning. The Single Comb Whites maintained the record of the Buffs and Blacks, and for class and beauty they were the equal of the



Maryland Agricultural College Exhibit

others. J. S. Houpt won first on a grand cock and an equally grand pen. They were pretty and greatly admired. The Hanover Poultry Farm scored on first hen—that was all that could be desired—and W. A. Kiefer came out a winner on a winning cockerel. These winners had great specimens, but it must be said that there were others that would have won first with great distinction had not the judges' eye placed the ribbons where they did. Altogether the Orpingtons have established a high standard of excellence at Washington, and the breeders must sustain this position at the next Washington, show.

The Asiatic classes seem to have lost caste in this section of the country, and the breeders of these birds must wake up to the situation or their idols will have passed from memory. Three entries of Light Brahmas—a cock, pullet and pen—were all that were shown of these once monarchs of poultrydom. These birds are too valuable to lose and the breeders should not lose sight of this fact. Two cocks, two hens and two pullets in Black Langshans completed the list of Asiatics. Nine entries in all for this great class of poultry. Not a Cochin was to be seen for love or money, and yet there were many calls for them. D. J. Hoge & Son carried first on cock, hen, cockerel and pullet on Langshans. Those who are acquainted with Mr. Hoge know of the quality of his birds and comment is unnecessary.

Single Comb Brown Leghorns made a fine showing and did credit to their kind. Loor C. Dixon got first on cock and cockerel, and Miss Sophia C. Pitchlynn naturally took the honors on the female side, winning first on hen, pullet and pen. Miss Pitchlynn has quite the right line on the female breeding and has the quality to win anywhere with her pets. The Single Comb Whites were of good quality and type. N. E. Cook won four firsts out of a possible five on cock, hen, pullet and pen; C. S. Moore taking first on cockerel. Single Comb Buffs were all shown by T. Frank Hall, and his entry was extremely creditable. W. T. Stamper was the only exhibitor of Blue Andalusians, which made a pretty showing.

Single Comb Black Minorcas was not a large class—not as large as was anticipated. Wilber E. Evans scored on cock, hen and cockerel, and Stanley B. Anderson won on pullet. No pens were shown. Here is a good class of birds that seem to be on the neglected list, and their promoters must get busy with them for next year. One pen of White-Faced Black Spanish was shown by Edward Holst. A few Aneonas were entered by E. G. Hulse. Paul C. Bishoff was the only entry on Houdans. A cock and a hen, by R. E. Lee, did the honors for the Polish classes. These two specimens were the White-Crested Black Polish. Think of all the other beautiful varieties of these ornamental birds that were not there. Only three Lakenvelders were in the pens.

Seventeen single entries and three pens were the entries of Pit Games. These beautiful birds were there cocked and primed for anything that

would take place. They were there for honors different from those they had previously sought. Honors were scattered in these classes. James Folk won first cock, D. T. Grady, first hen; J. M. Carlisle, first cockerel, and J. G. Gray, first pen. These awards were carefully placed and satisfaction, so far as it went, was guaranteed. There were no Exhibition Games or Game Bantams on display.

The Bantam classes were sadly neglected, and extremely weak, so far as they went. Wm. Tulloch showed two White Silkies, and Teddy Holst was a winner in his class on first on cock, hen, cockerel and pullet in the Japanese Silkies. Teddy is a winner himself wherever he is shown, and he did a whole lot for the success of the show. Miss Marion Edwards displayed four Black Tailed Japanese Bantams, and Mrs. Wm. Gray had three White Japanese Bantams. This ended the entries of Bantams, and some people who are interested in Bantams ought to do something before next year or give up Bantams forever.

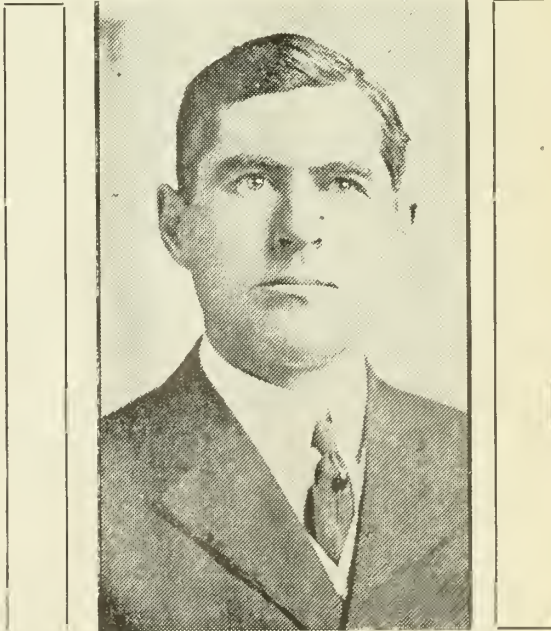
The Bronze Turkey made its entry and won applause. The first cock and first hen of M. A. Hutton were a beautiful pair. The White Holland pair shown by W. Warrenton Evans were first-class specimens.

Ducks were good. The winners in the old class of Pekins, by W. W. Thomas, were nice birds. The young birds shown by the Caw-Law Farm were extremely fine youngsters. R. D. Hunt had the Rouen classes all to himself; they were grand birds. Caw-Law Poultry Farm was unequalled on Indian Runners, their entries being exceptionally fine. In the Any Other Variety Classes H. Reuter made a good winning on Brazilians and Muscovys. Owing to inability of Whealton Game Preserve to get their entry in, geese were not to the good, save for the pair of Canada Geese entered by Edward S. Schmid.

The Pigeon display, while not large, was there to the good. It was something of a specialty class, where the specialty breeder was there with the goods. E. Callan Duffy—of Pigmy fame—filled the classes in these attractive beauties. There was no second to him—a clean sweep on gems of beauty. W. E. Reardon was there with a fine lot of birds that attracted the attention of all. Mr. Reardon is a breeder that gets the love and infatuation from his birds that few others do, and his entry gave spice and vim to the whole show. Jos. Neil displayed Dragoons. Jos. B. Cook



E. Callan Duffy



Harry M. Lamon

showed a few runts. Capt. Wm. W. Cookson had a remarkably fine collection of Carneau in both the old and young-bird classes. The Captain may well feel proud of his specimens.

The Maryland Agricultural College made an attractive and beneficial display, occupying the entire stage in the east end of the hall. Prof. Roy Waite, in charge of the exhibit, was kept busy early and late, and did much good work in behalf of the industry. Those who were present were doubly appreciative of his courteous treatment and intelligent explanation of all things pertaining to poultry.

M. R. Jacobus made an attractive display of his charming Silver Campines. This display was very interesting. Miss Sophia Pitchlynn made a display of Brown Leghorn cockerels, which made a splendid showing, as did C. E. Gibbs with his Buff Orpingtons. E. S. Schmid had several displays of White Swans and Golden and Silver Pheasants.

The exhibition room of supplies, incubators, foods and remedies was a principal feature of the show, and was the means of doing considerable business for these enterprising firms. Those having displays were: F. W. Belgiano, Washington, D. C., poultry supplies and agricultural implements; F. W. Bird & Son, East Walpole, Mass., and Washington, D. C., roofing and building paper; C. M. Woolf & Co., Washington, D. C., poultry and agricultural supplies; Edward S. Schmid, Washington, D. C., poultry, pigeons and their supplies; Southern Poultry Supply Co., Washington, D. C., poultry and poultry supplies; The Successful Poultry Remedy Co., Washington, D. C., poultry and pigeon remedies, disinfectants, etc.; Griffith Turner & Co., Baltimore, Md., poultry and agricultural supplies, and Ernest H. Mills, Merchantville, N. J., automatic poultry feeders.

Awards at the Washington Show

PLYMOUTH ROCKS—BARRED: Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, 3, 5, pul 3, 4, O. C. Boileau; ck 2, hen 2, ckl 4, pul 1, 2, pen 1, E. D. Talty; ck 3, 4, W. A. Sherman; ck 5, pen 3, Rose A. Clark; hen 3, pen 2, Race Course Poultry Yards; hen 4, Wm. J. Sands; ckl 2, Glen-Anlie Farm; pul 5, Hanover Poultry Farm. **WHITE:** Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 2, pul 2, J. F. Defandorf; hen 2, ckl 1, D. J. Hoge & Son; hen 3, R. E. Lee; pul 1, Hutchinson & Heitmueller; pen 1, Lucien A. Gray. **BUFF:** Ck 1, hen 2, ckl 1, 2, pul 1, pen 1, A. H. Kirk; ck 2, hen 1, Geo. B. Smith; ckl 3, pul 2, 3, Mrs. R. P. Hines. **SILVER PENCILED:** Ck 1, E. A. Kirk.

WYANDOTTES—SILVER: Ck 1, pul 1, Henry J. Hunt, 3d. **BUFF:** Ck 1, ckl 1, pul 1, Reuben P. Hines. **GOLDEN:** Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, pen 1, Albert Fletcher, Jr.; pen 2, Henry J. Hunt, 3d. **WHITE:** Ck 1, ckl 5, A. M. Knapp; ck 2, hen 2, ckl 4, pul 4, pen 2, Ernest R. A. Litzau; ck 3, hen 1, ckl 1, 2, pul 1, pen 1, Mrs. T. W. Turner; ck 4, hen 4, pul 2, pen 4, W. W. Thomas; ck 5, O. C. Carver; hen 3, ckl 3, pul 3, Hutchinson & Heitmueller; pul 5, E. J. Taylor; pen 3, Henry J. Hunt, 3d. **BLACK:** Ck 1, 2, hen 1, 2, ckl 1, pul 1, G. H. Boyd. **PARTRIDGE:** Hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, pen 1, Henry J. Hunt, 3d; ckl 2, pul 2, hen 2, R. L. Detwiler. **COLUMBIAN:** Ck 1, hen 4, ckl 4, pul 5, P. Francis Sutor; ck 2, hen 3, Sutor & Young; hen 1, ckl 1, pul 4, J. F. Defandorf; hen 2, 5, ckl 2, pul 2, 3, Chas. M. Catlett; ckl 3, pul 1, pen 2, B. Alton Smith; pen 1, Henry J. Hunt, 3d.

RHODE ISLAND REDS—SINGLE COMB: Ck 1, hen 1, E. W. Monday; ckl 3, pul 1, pen 1, Clifton Farm; ckl 1, Chas. M. Bridges; ckl 2, C. S. Moore; pen 2, Mrs. O. B. Clark; pul 2, G. L. Bidwell. **ROSE COMB:** Ck 1, ckl 3, pul 2, Mrs. A. W. Pleasants; ck 2, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, pen 1, Clifton Farm; ck 3, ckl 2, A. H. Barber; pul 3, Mrs. O. B. Clark.

BUCKEYES—Ck 1, pul 1, L. T. Place.

ORPINGTONS—SINGLE COMB BUFF: Ck 1, hen 3, pul 3, pen 1, John Smithdeal; ck 2, ckl 2, 4, Jerome A. D'Andelet; hen 1, 2, pul 2, 4, pen 2, A. K. Hall; ckl 1, Fred. H. Bletsch; ckl 3, pul 1, Van A. Zahn;

pen 3, Geo. B. Smith. **ROSE COMB:** Hen 1, ck 1, J. S. Houpt. **SINGLE COMB BLACK:** Ck 1, hen 2, J. S. Houpt; ck 2, hen 4, ckl 5, pul 4, Chas. C. Bodeker; ck 3, Miss J. H. Chadwick; ck 4, ckl 4, R. D. Lillie; hen 1, ckl 2, 3, pul 1, 3, Chas. L. Hall; hen 5, B. C. Wheeler; hen 3, pen 3, Bally McElroy Farms; ckl 1, Chas. W. Hulfish; pul 5, N. M. Rawlings; pen 1, Geo. B. Smith; pen 2, John Smithdeal. **SINGLE COMB WHITE:** Ck 1, pen 1, J. S. Houpt; ck 2, 4, hen 1, 5, ckl 3, 4, pul 3, 5, Hanover Poultry Yards; ck 3, 5, hen 3, pen 2, East End Orpington Yards; hen 2, ckl 1, pul 2, 4, W. A. Kiefer; hen 4, G. L. Bidwell; ckl 2, B. E. Hutchinson; ckl 5, pul 1, Luther O. Keeton; pen 3, Geo. B. Smith. **ROSE COMB WHITE:** Hen 1, G. B. Smith.

BRAHMAS—LIGHT: Ck 1, pul 1, pen 1, J. F. Biret.

LANGSHANS—BLACK: Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, D. J. Hoge & Son; ckl 2, hen 2, Dr. Hugh H. Trout.

LEGHORNS—SINGLE COMB BROWN: Ck 1, 3, ckl 1, 2, 3, Loo C. Dixon; ck 2, hen 5, Dr. Hugh H. Trout; hen 1, 2, 3, 4, pul 1, 2, 3, pen 1, Sophia C. Pitchlynn; ckl 4, U. C. Clark. **SINGLE COMB WHITE:** Ck 1, hen 1, 2, pul 1, 2, pen 1, N. E. Cook; hen 3, pul 3, M. E. Sabin; ckl 1, C. S. Moore; ckl 2, Gilbert C. Hilligas. **SINGLE COMB BUFF:** Ckl 1, pul 1, pen 1, T. Frank Hall.

ANDALUSIANS—BLUE: Ck 1, hen 1, 2, 3, 4, ckl 1, pul 1, W. S. Stamper.

MINORCAS—SINGLE COMB BLACK: Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, 2, pul 3, Wilbur E. Evans; pul 1, Stanley B. Anderson; pul 2, E. Murphy.

SPANISH—WHITE FACE BLACK: Pen 1, Edward Holst.

ANCONAS—Hen 1, ckl 1, pul 2, pen 1, E. G. Hulse; pul 1, 3, C. S. Moore.

HOUDANS: Ckl 1, pul 1, 2, 3, Paul C. Bischoff;

POLISH—WHITE CRESTED BLACK: Ck 1, hen 1, R. E. Lee.

LAKENFELDERS: Ckl 1, pul 1, A. M. Knapp; pen 1, Mrs. Lean L. Dye.

GAMES—PIT: Ck 1, pen 2, James Folk; ck 2, ckl 3, pen 1, J. G. Gray; ck 3, W. R. Hoffman; ck 4, 5, ckl 1, 2, 4, J. M. Carlisle; hen 1, D. T. Grady; pen 3, P. Stubener.

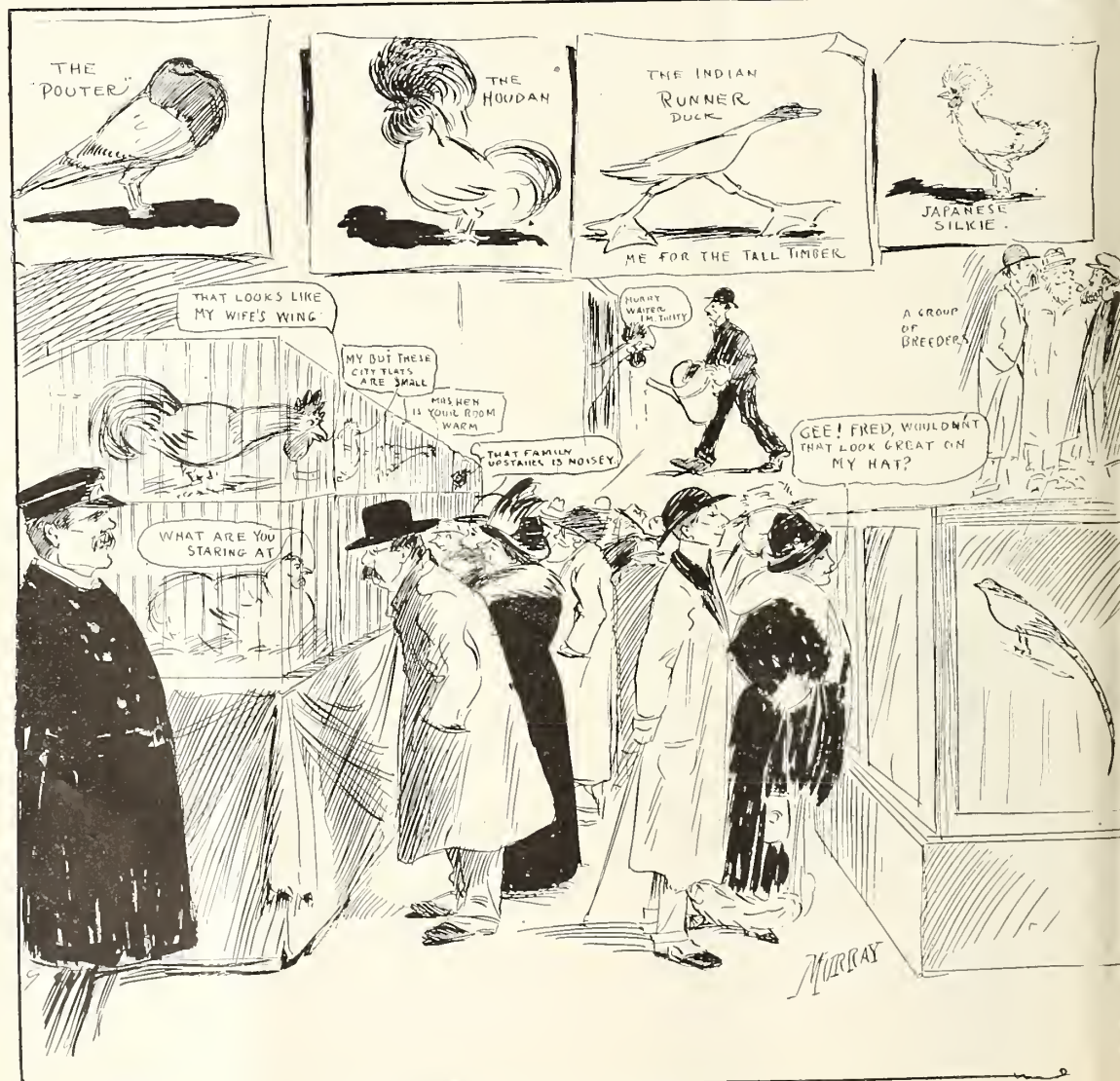
ARNADULS—ANY OTHER VARIETY: Hen 1, 2, pul 1, W. S. Stamper.

TURKEYS—BRONZE: Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 2, pul 1, M. A. Hutton; ckl 1, pul 2, E. A. Marshall. **WHITE:** Ck 1, hen 1, W. Warrenton Evans; ck 2, hen 2, 3, E. S. Schmid.

DUCKS—PEKIN: Old drake 1, old duck 1, young drake 2, young duck 2, W. W. Thomas; young drake 1, young duck 1, Caw Law Poultry Farm. **ROUEN:** Old drake 1, old duck 1, young drake 1, 2, young duck 1, R. D. Hunt. **INDIAN RUNNERS—FAWN:** Old drake 1, old duck 1, 2, young drake 1, young duck 1, 2, Caw Law Poultry Farm. **WHITE:** Old drake 1, young drake 1, young duck 2, Caw Law Poultry Farm; old duck 1, young drake 3, Louis E. Goodrich. **ANY OTHER VARIETY—GREY MALLARD:** Old drake, 1, pen 2, P. Stubener. **BRAZILIAN:** Old drake 1, young drake 1, H. Reuter. **MANDARIN:** Old drake 1, young drake 1, Whealton Game Preserve. **MUSCOVY:** Old duck 1, young duck 1, H. Reuter. **BLACK MALLARD:** Pen 1, M. E. Sabin.

SWANS—All to Edward S. Schmid.

GEESE—All to Edward S. Schmid.



The Evening Star Artist's Conception of the Show

PIGEONS—PIGMY POUTERS: All to E. Callan Duffy. MUFFLED TUMBLERS—SILVER BARRED: Ck 1, W. E. Reardon. BLACK: Ck 1, W. E. Reardon. PARLOR TUMBLERS—RED: Ck 1, hen 1, W. E. Reardon; ck 2, hen 2, H. Pleasant Bonsal. PARLOR TUMBLERS—BLACK: Ck 1, W. E. Reardon. SATINETTES: All to W. E. Reardon. BLONDINETTES: All to W. E. Reardon. SILVERTETTES: All to W. E. Reardon. BLUETTES: All to W. E. Reardon. TURBITEENS: All to W. E. Reardon. ANY OTHER VARIETY ORIENTALS: All to H. Pleasant Bonsal. TURBITS: All to W. E. Reardon. DRAGONS: All to Jos. Neil. RUNTS: All to Jos. B. Cook. AFRICAN OWLS: Ck 1, hen 1, Chas. H. Weiller. WHITE AFRICAN OWLS: Ck 1, hen 1, W. E. Reardon. SNOW HOMERS: All to Dr. Chas. H. A. Meyer. CARNEAUX: All to Wm. W. Cookson. ANY HALF-BREED: All to Jos. B. Cook. GOLDEN AND SILVER PHEASANTS: All to Jos. M. Mason, Jr. MISCELLANEOUS WHITE SILKIES: All to Wm. Tulloch. JAPANESE BANTAMS—WHITES: All to Mrs. Wm. Gray. JAPANESE SILKIE BANTAMS: All to Master Teddy Holst.

DISPLAYS: M. R. Jacobus, Silver Campines; Miss Sophia Pitchlynn, Brown Leghorns; C. E. Gibbs, Buff Orpingtons; E. S. Schmid, White Swans; E. S. Schmid, Pheasants; Master Teddy Holst, Light Brahma Bantams.

CONCESSIONS: T. W. Bolgiano, poultry supplies and agricultural implements, 1009 B st. N. W.; F. W. Bird & Son, roofing and building paper, East Walpole, Mass., also 1110 F St. N. W., Washington, D. C.; C. M. Woolf & Co., poultry and agricultural supplies, 1005 B St. N. W.; Edw. S. Schmid, poultry and poultry supplies, 712 12th St. N. W.; Southern Poultry Supply Co., poultry and poultry supplies, 824 9th St. N. W.; Griffith, Turner & Co., poultry and agricultural supplies, Baltimore, Md.; Successful Poultry Remedy Co., poultry remedies and disinfectants, Washington, D. C.; Ernest H. Mills, automatic feeders, Merchantville, N. J.



Partial View of Exhibition Hall of the Washington Show

THE FEATHER'S MONTHLY EGG LAYING CHART

FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1912

Pen No.	<u>Variety</u>	Male Number	Total For The Month
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[illegible]

NOTE.—This Chart will be published each Month in *The Feather* during the year. Keep a correct record of your birds each month.



Great International Egg Laying Contest

By A. M. POLLARD

THE international egg-laying contest which is now going on at Storrs Agricultural Experiment Station, Storrs, Conn., began Nov. 1, 1911, and is to terminate Oct. 31, 1912. Six hundred birds are entered, 500 going into the contest proper, the other 100 being kept in reserve in case of sickness or death of any bird in the regular pens. There are 100 pens, 5 birds being placed in each pen. It takes 50 houses to accommodate these birds, two pens to a house.

These houses are 12 x 12 feet, divided in center into two pens. This gives a pen of five birds each a room 6 x 12 or 14 feet of floor space per fowl. There is a sliding window on the east side, another on the west side, while the entire front is open from the roof to within two feet of the ground, except the door into each pen. This insures the greatest amount of sunlight from sunrise to sunset. The center partition is of wire down to within two feet of floor, and the wire reaches back to the drop boards. It allows the sunlight to enter both pens at once. Attached to the partition is a slatted platform in each pen. On this platform is placed the drinking water and a pan of dry mash. Cups on the wall contain oyster shells, grit and charcoal.



Pen 77—S. C. White Leghorns who have been in the lead six weeks out of eight weeks of the contest, owned by Thomas Barron, of Catforth, England.

Drop boards are cleaned every day, and a disinfectant used. Everything is in a perfectly sanitary condition. Corn husks run through a cutter are used for litter and it has proved to be most excellent.

The contest is in charge of three of the best-known poultry breeders in the East. A. M. Pollard, superintendent and official record keeper, has a national reputation as a breeder of Single Comb White Leghorns. J. H. Austin is a successful breeder of R. I. Reds, and H. S. Holcomb a breeder of Barred Plymouth Rocks, who makes a specialty of day-old chicks. The United States Department of Agriculture estimates the number of eggs laid by the hens of the United States in 1910 to be thirty thousand millions. Therefore this contest is well worth the attention and study of the ablest minds interested in the development of agriculture.

This egg-laying contest has started under the most favorable circumstances. There are 23 different breeds in the contest. At the end of the first week only 22 pens had laid; at the end of the eighth week 77 pens were laying, which is a great increase, and the wise ones predict that all the pens will be laying at the end of another month.

Birds are entered from all over the United States, Canada and England.

The pen of S. C. W. Leghorns from England arrived in grand condition, and their record so far is surely a proof of the above. Trap nests are used in all pens. Leghorns are not credited with being winter layers, but the Leghorns in this contest have got all the so-called heavy winter layers beaten to a frazzle. But all you breeders of Rocks and Reds and Orpingtons, cheer up, because the contest is not over yet.

Note the steady increase in number of pens laying: At the end of first week 22 pens had laid; second week, 41 pens laid; third week, 50 pens; fourth week, 52 pens; fifth week, 57 pens; sixth week, 62 pens; seventh week, 74 pens; eighth week, 77 pens. At the end of the first week the largest number of eggs laid was 10, laid by a pen of S. C. W. Leghorns, from Toms Poultry Farm, Toms River, N. J. The second week shows

the S. C. White Leghorns still in the lead, the champion pen this week being the ones owned by Thomas Barron, of Catforth, near Preston, England. They laid 17 eggs. Buff Leghorns were second best with 13 eggs, a pen owned by Geo. H. Schmitz, Chicago, Ill. The third and fourth week finds Thomas Barron and his White Leghorns still leading with 23 eggs the third week and 21 eggs the fourth week. The fifth week brings a newcomer to the front—the White Rose Poultry Farm, Vineland, N. J. Their S. C. W. Leghorns had to their credit 21 eggs, with three pens tied for second place with 17 eggs each, two of the three pens being Leghorns and the other a pen of R. I. Reds. The sixth, seventh and eighth weeks find Thomas Barron's S. C. W. Leghorns still leading, sixth week with 22 eggs, seventh week, 26 eggs, and eighth week, 26 eggs. At the end of the eighth week three pens are tied for second position—a pen of Barred Plymouth Rocks, owned by Brooks Sanitary Hennyery, Morgan Park, Ill., 20 eggs; pen of Rose Comb R. I. Reds, owned by C. S. Scoville, East Haven, Conn., 20 eggs, and the pen of Buff Orpingtons, owned by Wm. T. Patterson, of Ambler, Pa., 20 eggs. There were also four pens tied for third position, with 19 eggs each. Now, watch out for big things during the month of January.



One of the Contest Houses

Where Market Poultry Pays Best

A Farm on Which 50,000 Ducks, Broilers and Roasters Are Annually Dressed and Shipped to Market

By MICHAEL K. BOYER

STEPHEN B. TWINING, the genial proprietor of Afton Farm, Yardley, Pa., believes in the middleman. Notwithstanding that for years the poultry press in general and the poultry shippers in particular have been decrying the commission man, Mr. Twining has found him an excellent adjunct to his farm operations. In truth, instead of "bleeding" the Afton Farm, he is saving labor and worry to the management, besides adding considerable to the bank account. There are good and bad middlemen; there is no doubt about it. Before shipments are made to a house, the reliability should be investigated.

Thirty-odd years ago E. W. Twining, the father of the present owner, started in a small way what is now known as the "Afton Farm." From the beginning market poultry was the object, broiler-raising being the branch chiefly catered to. The original plant occupied but an acre of ground.

Mr. Twining not only made a deep study of the work, but he made tests and trials, until he got the plant up to successful operation. It was slow work, but as it progressed it was built upon a solid foundation. It is a noteworthy fact that all the large and successful poultry farms of today are those that had a small beginning, and by dint of energy and perseverance worked their way to the front. Every big, healthy enterprise must come by growth. Rome was not built in an instant, nor could even God make a year-old colt in a day.

The wants of the markets of Boston, New York, Atlantic City, Philadelphia and Washington were duly investigated and their whims strictly catered to. In this way Afton Farm became a paying proposition. In a great measure the success of Afton Farm was due to the superior line of breeding stock that had been developed there. The birds were vigorous, had large, well-shaped bodies, set on short, stout legs, which were far apart; birds that were heavy layers and producers of the blocky, broad-breasted youngsters that dress so nicely for market and command fancy prices from the leading butchers.

Visitors usually wanted to procure some of this stock, and Mr. Twining got to sparing a little; later on he found it necessary to provide for this trade, and finding this branch of the business worth his while, he started in 1907 to advertise the stock. Up to the present time a large business has been established in the sale of breeders and eggs for hatching. But, with it all, Mr. Twining is seriously considering going back to market goods exclusively. He says there is less clerical work, less worry, and, in all, more profit.

The experience of Afton Farm has been that there is always a demand for good poultry at a price which makes production profitable. The supply of first-grade stock is not increasing in proportion to the demand. The market always has had, and probably always will have, a surfeit of cull stock, for the reason that people will persist in breeding from inferior birds. There is no good logic in it—a poor hen can not be maintained at a less figure than can a good one. Pure-bred stock will not only do better laying as a flock, but



Breeding Ducks of Afton Farm

will also produce offspring that will more quickly mature and develop the kind of carcasses that command the highest prices in market.

In 1899, having finished his school days, Stephen B. Twining returned home and entered into co-partnership with his father, under the firm name of S. B. & E. W. Twining. January 4, 1906, after a brief illness, the elder Mr. Twining died, and the sole proprietorship and management fell to the son, who is still a young man. Poultry is his life work. He believes that a square deal today means a big advertisement for tomorrow. He has become one of the best informed men in the country on market poultry.

The breeding is done principally for size, growth and heavy egg yield. Over 50,000 birds are annually raised, and only 2,000 pullets are reserved each year. They are, naturally, culled, selected from the flocks, and are the choicest of the lot. The rest—seconds, thirds, etc.—go to care for the large trade of dressed poultry that Afton Farm has acquired. The first year the breeders are used for the market egg trade, and then they are overhauled and mated for the "eggs for hatching" business during their yearling year.

When any business relying upon public support for success can point with pride to an honorable career of many years, it is proof of its sterling merit; for only a business possessing merit can survive in this progressive age. Afton Farm started with poultry in the pioneer days and is here today greater and stronger than ever.

There is nothing mysterious in success with poultry. The methods of successful poultry men are very simple. There are no wonderful secrets—it is merely common sense, which includes common honesty, backed by grit and well-directed energy.

Mr. Twining says: "Success with poultry? You get it the same way that you do with everything else—attending strictly to whatever happens to be in hand and not trust too much to hired help."

The rules that Afton Farm has followed from the start, and which made its career so successful, are:

1. Start with and keep nothing but the best of breeders.

2. Have comfortable houses; this does not necessarily mean expensive.

3. Feed plain, wholesome food.

4. Never use poor feed because it costs less money. It is the most expensive in the long run.

5. Fancy prepared foods, while oftentimes good, are expensive and unnecessary.

6. Keep everything clean.

7. Never let it be too much trouble to do the right thing at the right time.

8. Above all things, always exercise just plain, ordinary, common sense.

The duck industry on Afton Farm has come to be one of the most important. Each carcass is banded, giving a trade mark that at once guarantees reliability of stock.

Raising green ducks for market is occupying considerable time on Afton Farm. Mr. Twining says the low prices of 1908, while expensive to the producers of that year, have been a boon to the duck business. Heretofore consumers only thought of ducks as birds that were hatched in the spring by the farmers' hens, allowed to wallow in the mud all summer, feed on filth, etc., and then fattened in the fall when old, tough, and of coarse-grained flesh.

Mr. Twining, in his book, "Poultry Truths," says that in the early days it was hard for the producer of green ducklings to get the trade on his goods he deserved. The low price of ducklings in 1908, and the high price of other meats, caused summer resort hotelmen to sit up and take notice. For economy's sake they tried ducklings. Their guests liked them. They were served often. It was a common thing to hear on a hotel porch that summer: "I never thought I would care for duck, but the ducklings they are serving here are delicious."

From these summer hotels the guests went to their homes scattered over the country. They remembered that ducklings were truly good eating. Thus one year's low prices have advertised ducklings throughout the land. A demand has been established that assures good prices for years to come.

This remarkable development of the duck industry in this country was made possible largely through the introduction of the Imperial Pekin. They will lay earlier in the season. They will lay the most eggs per year. They are confined by a two-foot-high fence. They have white feathers. They are quick growers. They have long, low breasts that flesh up well. In fact, Mr. Twining has found in the Pekin the two essentials combined—the cheapest duck to raise and the best table duck.

On Afton Farm not less than 25,000 ducks are raised annually, and as one cent per pound additional cost in production or loss in sale means for the season one thousand dollars lost, Mr. Twining is continually watching for opportunity to reduce the cost of production, or how to get a better price.

Ducks do not require the expensive buildings as do chickens. They are gross eaters, but the cost need not be but a little more than half as much to produce a pound of duck flesh as a pound of chicken. (Concluded on page 17.)

The Baltimore Show

The fourth annual exhibition of the Maryland Poultry and Pigeon Association has come and gone, but its memory still lingers with us. It was a great, big blow-out and will long be remembered by those in attendance. The Fifth Regiment Armory, where the show was held, made a beautiful appearance with the 3,000 birds on exhibition, and the fine displays of appliances, foods, remedies, etc.

The poultry classes were of very fine character and quality, and it would be a task to find better representatives than were found in the American classes. Barred and White Plymouth Rocks numbered 172 specimens in the open classes. The winners were superior birds and a credit to their owners. The Buff, Columbian and Partridge Plymouth Rocks were well represented. White Wyandottes and Rhode Island Reds were equally as strong.

The popularity of the Orpingtons was very forcibly expressed at this show, the Blacks and Whites being the leaders. These birds are growing daily in popularity and their admirers are legion. Some fine individual specimens were to be seen in these alleys, and the ribbons were placed on the winners. Black Langshans made a fine show, fifty specimens competing in the open classes.

The Mediterranean classes were represented by a fine string of White Leghorns, an average entry of Brown and Buff Leghorns. The Black Minorcas were not so strong as was to be expected, while the Black Spanish, Andalusians and Anconas were weak. The French classes, Polish, Hamburgs and Campines were limited. The Cornish and White Games easily stood in a class by themselves, and led all others of their kind. The entry of exhibitors were very short.

About 500 beautiful and fascinating Bantams made a fine display in their classes, and proved quite an attraction. Each class of the Games was there in full blast and of a superior quality. Each and every winner was worthy of the blue, and for quality were as good as comes. Light Brahma and Cochin Bantams were excellent and filled their classes with much merit. Sebrights, both Silver and Golden, were very nice. There was an attractive display of Turkeys, Ducks and Geese, and the usual good quality was well displayed.

The Pigeon department was represented with about 500 attractive specimens of the very highest quality. The dainty Pigmy Pouter came in for its usual share of attention. The attractive Fantail, Tumblers of all kinds, and Oriental Frills had many friends present. Altogether the Pigeon end of the show was of such size and quality as to do credit as an individual show of its own.

The officers of the show were as follows: F. G. Riggs, president; J. Booker Clark, first vice president; Dr. Chas. H. A. Meyer, second vice president; Henry M. Walker, third vice president; C. M. Diffenderfer, treasurer, and Geo. C. Brown, secretary and superintendent. Judges of poultry: Hon. D. A. Nichols, W. C. Denny, Richard Oke, W. H. Card, H. P. Schwab, W. Theo. Wittman, Charles T. Cornman, Fred Huyler, Robert Seaman, John C. Kriner and Wm. G. Min-

nick. Judges of pigeons: Geo. B. Hart, Geo. Ewald, E. B. Ulrich, James Glasgow and Wm. Ehinger.

Awards at Baltimore Show

PLYMOUTH ROCKS—BARRED: Ck 1, hen 3, ckl 4, pen 3, (pullet mating) pen 2, (cockerel mating) W. G. Bolleau; ck 2, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 2 and 5, breeding pen 1, pen 1, (cockerel mating) Henry D. Riley; ck 3, pen 5, (pullet mating) Chas. H. Shaylor; ck 4, Emory A. Murphy; ck 5, hen 4, pul 1 and 4, pen 4, (pullet mating) pen 4, (cockerel mating) Robert J. Walden; hen 2, ckl 3, pul 3, pen 2, (pullet mating) pen 5, (cockerel mating) A. E. Warner; hen 5, pen 1, (pullet mating) J. W. Smith; ckl 2, pen 5, (cockerel mating) Frank Harbaugh; ck 5, L. H. Reade; breeding pen 2, Leslie H. McCue; breeding pen 3, Brooklandwood Farm; breeding pen 4, Norman Stump; breeding pen 5, Fred C. Biensstein. **WHITE:** Ck 1 and 2, hen 1, ckl 1 and 3, pul 1, pen 1, Rockadotte Farm; ck 3, hen 3, ckl 2, 4 and 5, pul 2, Rockland Farm; ck 4, hen 4 and 5, pul 3, 4 and 5, pen 2, A. R. Early; ck 5, hen 2, J. F. Defandorff; pen 3 and 4, Geo. R. B. Heffner; pen 5, Geo. G. Horn. **BUFF:** Ck 1, hen 5, C. W. Ballinger; ck 2, ckl 3, Harry D. Busick; ck 3, hen 3, Herman A. Lang; ck 4 and 5, hen 1 and 2, ckl 1, 4 and 5, pul 1, 2 and 5, pen 1, Jeffrey and Hervey; hen 4, Brish Bros.; ckl 2, A. H. Kirk; pul 3 and 4, W. J. and H. A. Heeger; pen 2, Bal Med Farm; pen 3, G. Everett Wallis. **COLUMBIAN:** Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 3, ckl 1, 2 and 4, pul 1, 2 and 5, pen 1, F. G. Bean; ck 3, hen 2, ckl 3, pul 3 and 4, Chas. C. Knepper; ck 4, hen 4 and 5, ckl 5, Clyde Patterson. **PARTRIDGE:** Ck 1, ckl 3 and 4, pul 1 and 2, John F. List; ck 2, hen 1, pul 3, Geo. Schrade; ck 3, 4 and 5, hen 2 and 3, ckl 1 and 2, W. W. Symington; ckl 5, pul 4 and 5, J. George Sturgeon. **SILVER PENCILED:** Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, Mrs. M. D. Negley.

WYANDOTTES—SILVER LACED: Ck 1, J. W. Smith; ck 2 and 4, hen 2, pul 5, W. D. Kinsell; ck 3, hen 3, ckl 5, J. N. Hazlett; hen 1, ckl 1, H. W. Spatz, Jr.; ckl 2, Mrs. H. H. Russell; ckl 3 and 4, pul 1, 2, 3 and 4, Chas. S. Shirk. **GOLDEN:** Ck 1, hen 1 and 2, ckl 3, pul 5, F. P. Little; ck 2, ckl 1, pul 4, R. L. Shatzer; ck 3, hen 3, ckl 2 and 4, pul 1, 2 and 3, Everhart and Rogers; hen 4, S. H. Jones. **WHITE:** Ck 1 and 3, hen 1 and 3, ckl 1, 2, 3 and 5, pul 1 and 2, pen 1, Rockadotte Farm; ck 2, pul 4, pen 2, Mrs. Thomas Turner; ck 4, hen 2, pen 3, Ernest Litza; ck 5, Carr Bros.; hen 4, pen 4, James J. Farrell; hen 5, pul 5, Edward H. Sharpe; ckl 4, W. W. Thomas; pul 3, Long View Poultry Farm. **BUFF:** Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, ckl 1 and 2, pul 1, pen 1, S. J. Wiley. **PARTRIDGE:** Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, pul 1, 2 and 3, Dr. W. H. Fields. **SILVER PENCILED:** Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, pul 1 and 2, pen 1, J. J. Smith & Son. **COLUMBIAN:** Ck 1, Tannenbaum Farms; ck 2, 3 and 4, ckl 2, 3 and 4, L. E. Good; ck 5, hen 3, Chas. F. Wenzel; hen 1, P. Francis Sutor; hen 2, ckl 1, T. W. Whitworth; hen 4, pul 1 and 5, pen 1, Miss Anna E. Brennan; ckl 5, pul 2 and 3, B. Alton Smith; pul 4, E. E. Wilson; pen 2, J. Lawrence McCormick.

RHODE ISLAND REDS—SINGLE COMB: Ck 1, hen 4, ckl 2, pul 3, pen 1 and 4, G. W. White; ck 2, ckl 5, pen 3, J. Edwin Griffith; ck 3, hen 1, pen 5, Clifton Farm; ck 4, J. N. Hazlett; ck 5, hen 2, ckl 1, E. W. Monday; hen 3, W. S. Pike; hen 5, John Youngerman; ck 4, W. H. Curtis; ckl 3, Linstead Farm; pul 2 and 4, D. Scott Quintin; pul 1, pen 2, Dr. Foster Sudler; pul 5, J. Joseph Davis. **ROSE COMB:** Ck 1, hen 1 and 2, J. Edwin Griffith; ck 2, ckl 3, pul 2, Wm. M. Gorsuch; ck 3, A. H. Barber; ck 4, hen 4, ckl 1, pul 3, pen 4, Mrs. A. W. Pleasants; ck 5, ckl 2, pul 5, pen 3, M. C. Richardson, Jr.; hen 3, pul 1, pen 2, Clifton Farm; hen 5, Delaware Duckerie; ckl 4 and 5, Frank Harbaugh; pul 4, Carl L. Heumann; pen 1, Rev. Duncan McCulloch; pen 5, W. S. Pike.

ORPINGTONS—S. C. BUFF: Ck 1 and 4, hen 2, ckl 3 and 4, pul 5, pen 5, J. Edwin Griffith; ck 2, hen 4, ckl 5, Brish Bros.; ck 3, hen 3, Pinerose Poultry Yards; ck 5, Baker Johnson; hen 1 and 5, Wheeler Bros. **ORPINGTON YARDS:** ckl 1, pen 3, Dr. Geo. W. Davis; ckl 2, pul 1 and 3, A. J. Street; pul 2, pen 4, W. Franklin Cromwell; pul 4, Foxhurst Farm; pen 2, Walter C. Schaaf. **R. C. BUFF:** Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, Walter C. Schaaf. **S. C. BLACK:** Ck 1, ckl 3, hen 2, pen 4, F. E. Gilbert; ck 2, hen 1, ckl 1 and 4, pul 1 and 3, pen 1, Foxhurst Farm; ck 3, hen 4, pen 5, Baker Johnson; ck 4, Dr. Geo. W. Davis; ck 5, R. B. Little; hen 3, pen 3, J. E. Waesche; hen 5, ckl 5, J. Edwin Griffith; ckl 2, pul 5, Burnside Poultry Farm; pul 2 and 4, pen 2, Chas. L. Hall. **S. C. WHITE:** Ck 1, hen 1 and 4,

ckl 1, 2, 3 and 4, pul 1, 2, 4 and 5, pen 1 and 2, Aldrich Poultry Farm; ck 2, ckl 5, J. E. Griffith; ck 3 and 5, hen 5, F. E. Gilbert; ck 4, B. W. Sherry; hen 2, Schlaybach and Francis; hen 3, Geo. E. Guvernatur; pul 3, Foxhurst Farm; pen 3, H. M. Keeny; pen 4, John J. Haskell; pen 5, Hon. John H. Preston. **R. C. WHITE:** Ck 2, hen 1, ckl 1 and 2, pul 1, Ernest L. Shipley. **R. C. BLACK:** Ck 1, hen 2, Herbert Hooper. **V. S. M. D.:** ck 2, hen 1 and 3, Brish Bros.

BRAHMAS—LIGHT: Ck 1, hen 2 and 4, ckl 1, pul 1, pen 1, Wm. T. House; ck 2, hen 3 and 5, John Rumbold; hen 1, pul 2, pen 2, F. W. Davis; ckl 2, Fred Stutz; ckl 3, pul 3 and 4, pen 3, F. Schumacher.

COCHINS—PARTRIDGE: Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1 and 3, pul 1 and 3, Burnside Poultry Farm; ck 2, hen 2, ckl 2, pul 2, W. Irving Cross.

LANGSHANS—BLACK: Ck 1 and 2, hen 1, ckl 2 and 4, pen 3, Henry M. Walker; ck 3, hen 3, pen 4, Orangeville Poultry Farm; ck 4, hen 2 and 4, ckl 5, pul 5, pen 1, Herman J. Reitz; ck 5, hen 5, ckl 3, pul 4, pen 2, D. J. Hoge & Son; ckl 1, pul 1, Chas. S. Eggleston; pul 2 and 3, pen 5, Wm. Lauterbach.

LEGHORNS—S. C. BROWN: Ck 1, ckl 2, N. G. Sechrist; ck 2, hen 4, ckl 1, pul 3, John Kramme; ck 3, hen 1, 2 and 3, pul 1, 2 and 4, S. S. Burch; ckl 3 and 4, Novin Farm; ckl 5, Mrs. Chas. T. Miller; pul 5, H. V. Tormohlen; pen 1, John G. Delke. **S. C. WHITE:** Ck 1, hen 1 and 5, pul 1, 2 and 4, Andrew J. Warren; ck 2, L. H. Reade; ck 3, hen 3, Jos. Reiff; ck 4, hen 2, pul 3, pen 1, Richard Farm; ck 5, A. M. Henry; hen 4, C. J. Eitenmiller; ckl 1, J. B. Carr; ckl 2, pul 5, Dr. C. S. Tatum; ckl 3, pen 3, Maryland Squab Co.; ckl 4, Gillingham Poultry Farm; ckl 5, Rosemont Farm; pen 2, Kirby Emory. **R. C. WHITE:** Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 3, ckl 1 and 2, pul 1 and 2, Lehigh Poultry Farm; ck 3, hen 2, ckl 3, 4 and 5, pul 3, 4 and 5, Joseph Reiff. **S. C. BUFF:** Ck 1, hen 4, ckl 2, pul 3, H. Spaulding; ck 2, H. E. Foster; ck 3, Chas. F. Wenzel; ck 4, hen 2, ckl 4, pul 4, pen 2, H. Kreiger; ck 5, hen 1, pul 5, pen 1, F. S. Smith; ckl 1 and 5, pul 2, Chas. C. Sauter; hen 3, pul 1, H. E. Toston; ckl 3, Amos P. Moats; S. C. BLACK: Pul 1, H. M. Schnebly.

MINORCAS—S. C. BLACK: Ck 1, ckl 4 and 5, Edward Kress; ck 2, hen 2, ckl 2, pul 5, Carlisle Poultry Farm; ckl 1, pul 3, Geo. E. Castle; ckl 3, Thomas G. Samuels; pul 1, Harry C. Shilling; hen 1, pul 2, Brish Bros.; pul 4, Edward Kirk; pen 1, Frank Harbaugh. **R. C. BLACK:** Ck 1, 2 and 3, hen 1, 2 and 3, ckl 1, 2 and 3, pul 1, 2, 3 and 4, pen 1 and 2, Thomas G. Samuels; hen 4 and 5, Carlisle Poultry Farm; ckl 4, Herbert Hooper. **V. S. M. D.**

SPANISH—BLACK: Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, Carlisle Poultry Farm; pen 1, S. H. Jones; pen 2, Edward S. Schmid.

ANDALUSIANS—Ck 1, pul 1, 2, 4 and 5, Mrs. A. Kreiger; ckl 1, pul 3, Jos. H. Warner; pen 1 and 2, David Todd.

ANCONAS—Ck 1, hen 4, ckl 1, 2 and 5, pul 3 and 4, C. M. Rosenberger; ck 2, hen 3, pen 2, Fred L. Herbert and Sons; ck 3, hen 1 and 2, ckl 3, pul 2 and 5, R. H. Bain; hen 5, ckl 4, pul 1, pen 1, A. E. Wohler.

HOUDANS: Ck 1, pul 1 and 3, Arley C. Metcalfe; ck 2, ckl 1 and 2, Geo. Guygnet; ck 3, hen 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, ckl 3, pul 2 and 4, Mrs. W. L. Spencer; ck 4 and 5, pul 5, Walter C. Gibley.

POLISH—W. C. BLACK: Hen 1, 2 and 4, ckl 1, 2, 3 and 4, pul 1, 2, 3 and 4, John Lock; hen 3 and 5, ckl 5, pul 5, G. H. Lindauer.

HAMBURG—BLACK: Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, 2, 3 and 4, Richard Oke. **GOLDEN SPANGLED:** Ck 1, hen 1 and 2, ckl 1, pul 1 and 2, Richard Oke. **SILVER SPANGLED:** Ck 1, hen 1 and 3, ckl 1, pul 1 and 2, Richard Oke; ck 2, hen 2, W. H. Silck, Jr.; pen 1, S. H. Jones. **GOLDEN PENCILED:** Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, 2, 3 and 4, Richard Oke. **SILVER PENCILED:** Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, 2, 3 and 4, Richard Oke. **RED:** Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, 2, 3 and 4, Richard Oke.

CORNISH—DARK: Ck 1 and 2, hen 5, ckl 2, pul 1, Huey-Flempton Victor Co.; ck 3, pul 5, pen 2, J. N. Hazlett; ck 4, hen 1, ckl 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, pul 2, 3 and 4, pen 1 and 4, Dartmoor Yards; ck 5, John W. Ward, Jr.; hen 2, pen 3 and 5, Dr. W. A. Low; hen 3, Dr. R. B. Munn; hen 4, T. D. Moore. **WHITE:** Ck 1, ckl 1, pul 5, Jacob Eberly; ck 2 and 3, ckl 5, hen 4 and 5, pul 3, pen 1 and 2, Hilltop Poultry Farm; ck 4 and 5, hen 1, 2 and 3, ckl 2 and 3, pul 1 and 2, S. R. Smith and Sons; ckl 4, pul 4, Milton Olewiler. **RED, WHITE LACED:** Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, 2, 3 and 4, pul 1, 2, 3 and 4, Frank C. Burbank.

GAME—G. D.: Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1 and 2, Dr. John H. Shall. **M. D. PIT:** Ckl 1, hen 1 and 2, Fred G. McCommon. **SUMATRAS:** Ck 1, 2, 3 and 4, hen 1, 2, 3 and 4, ckl 1, 2, 3 and 4, pul 1, 2, 3 and 4, pen 1 and 2, N. D. Warner. **GERMAN NAKED NECKS:** Ck 1, ckl 1 and 2, pul 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, Chas. Kasten; ck 2, Marshall H. Winebrenner.

BANTAMS—B. B. RED GAME: Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 3, ckl 1, 2 and 3, pul 1 and 2, pen 1, Havemeyer Bros.; ck 3 and 4, hen 2 and 4, ckl 5, pul 4 and 5, pen 2, Dr. W. C. Cleeley; ck 5, David Dunn; hen 5, Winchester Keith; ckl 4, hen 3, J. K. and H. L. Brokaw; pul 3, F. N. Krienzie. **BROWN RED GAME:** Ck 1, hen 2 and 3, ckl 2 and 4, pul 1 and 2, pen 1, Havemeyer Bros.; ck 2, hen 4, ckl 1, pul 3 and 4, pen 2, W. H. Congdon; hen 1, ckl 3, pul 5, Wm. Brown; hen 5, Frank Wright and Son. **G. D. GAME:** Ck 1, hen 2 and 4, ckl 1, pul 2 and 3, pen 2, W. H. Congdon; ck 2 and 3, F. X. Krienzie; hen 1, Eastern Ideal Farm; hen

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3, ckl 2, pul 1, pen 1, Havemeyer Bros.; hen 5, ckl 3, Wm. Brown; pul 4 and 5, David Dunn. S. D. GAME: Ck 1, 2 and 4, David Dunn; ck 3, hen 3, ckl 2, pul 3, W. H. Congdon; ck 5, hen 2, Wm. Brown; hen 1, pul 4, F. X. Krienzie; hen 4, Frank Wright and Son; hen 5, ckl 3, pul 2, pen 1, Havemeyer Bros.; ckl 1, pul 1, Eastern Ideal Farm. BIRCHEN GAME: Ck 1, hen 2, ckl 4, pen 3, Eastern Ideal Farm; ck 2, hen 3, F. X. Krienzie; ck 3 and 5, hen 1 and 4, ckl 1 and 2, pul 1 and 5, pen 1, Havemeyer Bros.; ck 4, hen 5, ckl 3, pul 4, pen 2, W. H. Congdon; ckl 5, pul 2, Frank Wright and Son; pul 3, Wm. Brown. RED PILE GAME: Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 4, ckl 1, 2 and 3, pul 1 and 3, Havemeyer Bros.; ck 3, hen 2, Eastern Ideal Farm; ck 4, hen 5, ckl 4, pul 5, Chas. G. Smith; hen 3, pul 2, Frank Wright and Sons; ckl 5, pul 4, ck 5, Wm. Brown. WHITE GAMES: Ck 1, hen 1 and 2, ckl 1 and 3, pul 1 and 3, pen 1, Havemeyer Bros.; ck 2, hen 3, ckl 2, pul 2, Frank Wright and Sons; hen 4, Wm. Brown; hen 5, ckl 4, pul 4, Eastern Ideal Farm. BLACK GAME: Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, pen 1, Havemeyer Bros.; ckl 2, pul 2, Eastern Ideal Farm. LEMON BLUE GAME: Ck 1, hen 1, Havemeyer Bros. GOLDEN SEABRIGHT: Ck 1, hen 5, ckl 2, pul 5, Richard Oke; ck 2, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 3, C. M. Diffenderfer; ck 3, hen 2, pul 2, Lewis G. Miller; hen 3 and 4, ckl 3 and 4, pul 1 and 4, Halsey Hoffman. SILVER SEABRIGHT: Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, Richard Oke; ck 2, hen 2, ckl 2, pul 2, C. M. Diffenderfer; ckl 3, pul 3, A. W. Newcomer. R. C. WHITE: Ck 1, hen 2 and 4, ckl 2 and 3, pul 2 and 3, Richard Oke; ck 2, hen 1 and 3, ckl 1 and 4, pul 1, C. M. Diffenderfer. R. C. BLACK: Ck 1, hen 1 and 2, ckl 2, pul 3 and 4, Richard Oke; ck 2, hen 3 and 4, ckl 1 and 4, pul 1 and 2, C. M. Diffenderfer; ck 3, hen 5, ckl 3 and 5, pul 5, Robt. S. Hall. LIGHT BRAHMAS: Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, ckl 1 and 2, pul 1 and 2, Woodbrook Poultry Farm; hen 3 and 4, pul 3, Edward and Lindsey Spencer; ck 3 and 4, pul 4 and 5, W. G. Boileau. BUFF COCHIN: Ck 1, hen 1 and 2, ckl 1 and 3, pul 1 and 4, C. M. Diffenderfer; ck 2, hen 3, ckl 2, pul 2 and 3, W. J. and H. A. Jaeger; ck 3, Louise Sloan; pul 5, A. W. Newcomer. PARTRIDGE COCHIN: Ck 1 and 2, hen 1, 3 and 4, ckl 2 and 3, pul 1, 2, 3 and 5, pen 1, C. M. Diffenderfer; ck 3, hen 2, ckl 1, pul 4, W. J. and H. A. Jaeger; hen 5, Caw Law Poultry Farm. WHITE COCHIN: Ck 1, pul 3, W. J. and H. A. Jaeger; ck 2, hen 1 and 3, ckl 1, pul 1 and 2, C. M. Diffenderfer; hen 2, A. W. Newcomer. BLACK COCHIN: Ck 1, hen 4 and 5, ckl 3, pul 3 and 4, W. J. and H. A. Jaeger; ck 2 and 3, hen 2 and 3, ckl 1 and 2, pul 1 and 2, C. M. Diffenderfer; ck 4, pul 5, pen 1, John Waters Parrish; ck 5, hen 1, H. M. Raab. BLACK TAIL JAPANESE: Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, Richard Oke; ck 2, hen 2, E. McD. Thomas; ck 3 and 4, H. Scott Arnold. A. O. V. JAPANESE: Ck 1, hen 1, Richard Oke. WHITE JAPANESE: Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, Richard Oke; ck 2, V. N. S. Markell; ck 3, hen 2 and 4, E. McD. Thomas; ck 4, hen 3, Sleepy Hollow Poultry Farm. BLACK JAPANESE: Ck 1, hen 1, Richard Oke; ckl 1, pul 1, A. W. Newcomer. BEARDED WHITE POLISH: Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, ckl 1, pul 1, C. M. Diffenderfer. S. C. WHITE LEGHORN: Ck 1 and 4, hen 1, 2 and 5, ckl 1 and 3, pul 1, 2 and 3, pen 3, Dr. Forest E. Newhall; ck 2 and 5, hen 3 and 4, ck 2, pul 4, pen 2, Clarence L. Hughes; ck 3, pen 1, W. R. Monday; ckl 4, pul 5, Jos. W. Shirley, Jr. BARRED ROCKS: Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, ckl 1, pul 1, John C. Kriner and Co.

MISCELLANEOUS BREEDS.

LA FLESCHE—Ck 1, hen 1, Richard Oke. SALMON FAVEROLLES—Ck 1, hen 1, Orangeville Poultry Farm. SILVER CAMPINES—Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, M. R. Jacobus; ck 2, pul 2, J. H. Prudhomme. BRAEKELS: Ck 1, hen 1, pul 1, Brish Bros. LAKENVELDERS—Ck 1, 2 and 3, pul 1 and 2, A. M. Knapp. SILKIES: Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 3, pul 2, Brish Bros.; ck 2, hen 2, ckl 1 and 2, pul 1 and 3, Woodbrook Poultry Farm. RED CAPS: Pul 1, S. H. Jones.

TURKEYS—BRONZE: Old tom 1, young tom 4, Linstead Farm; old tom 2, hen 4, Henry M. Walker; old tom 3, hen 3 and 5, young tom 1, young hen 1 and 2, E. A.

Marshall; old tom 4 and 5, hen 2, Thomas W. Allen; young tom 2, Miss Mary J. Myer; hen 1, Ward McLanahan; young tom 3, young hen 3, M. F. Yates. BLACK: Old tom 1, Thomas W. Allen; old tom 2, hen 1, Louise Estes Fisher. SLATE: Old tom 1, hen 1, Thomas W. Allen. WHITE HOLLAND: Old tom 1, young hen 3, Carlisle Poultry Farm; old tom 2, hen 1, Thomas W. Allen; old tom 3, hen 2 and 3, young hen 4 and 5, R. Randolph Taylor; young tom 1, young hen 1 and 2, Glencroft Poultry Farm.

DUCKS—PEKIN: Drake 1 and 2, duck 3 and 4, young drake 1, 2 and 3, young duck 4 and 5, Wm. Frehofer; drake 3, duck 1 and 2, young duck 1, Thomas G. Samuels; drake 4, duck 5, young drake 4 and 5, pen 4, W. W. Thomas; drake 5, young duck 2, pen 2, Afton Farm; young duck 3, pen 1, Delaware Duckery; pen 3, Maryland Squab Co. ROSEN: Drake 1, duck 1 and 2, young drake 1, young duck 1 and 2, Linstead Farm; drake 2 and 3, duck 3 and 4, young drake 2, 3 and 4, young duck 3 and 4, pen 1, Woodbrook Poultry Farm; young drake 5, young duck 5, Thomas W. Allen. WHITE MUSCOVY: Young drake 1, 2, 3 and 4, duck 1, 2 and 3, young duck 1, 3 and 5, pen 1, Glencroft Poultry Farm; young duck 4, J. Hansell French; young drake 5, young duck 2, Thomas W. Allen. COLORED MUSCOVY: Drake 1, duck 1, Thomas W. Allen; young duck 1, J. Hansell French; pen 1, Louise Estes Fisher. INDIAN RUNNER: Drake 1, Fred Littlefield; drake 2 and 3, duck 2, Orangeville Poultry Farm; duck 1, young drake 1 and 2, young duck 1 and 2, Caw Law Poultry Farm; duck 3, young drake 3, S. H. Jones; young duck 3 and 4, Thomas Littlefield. WHITE INDIAN RUNNER: Drake 1, duck 1, young drake 1, young duck 1, Caw Law Poultry Farm. MALLARD: Drake 1, Linstead Farm; young drake 1, young duck 1 and 2, G. Everett Wallis; pen 1, Haskell Bros.

GESENE—TOULOUSE: Gander 1, goose 1, young gander 1, L. Harris Crewe; goose 2, Thomas W. Allen. EMBDEN: Gander 1, goose 1, young gander 1, young goose 1, Thomas W. Allen. AFRICAN: Young gander 1, young goose 1, L. Harris Crewe. WHITE CHINA: Gander 1, L. Harris Crewe; young gander 1, young goose 1, Thomas W. Allen. BROWN CHINESE: Gander 1, goose 3 and 4, Carlisle Poultry Farm; gander 2, goose 1, Thomas W. Allen; goose 2, young gander 1, L. Harris Crewe.

PIGEONS.

POUTER—BLUE: Ck 1, J. J. Davidson. BLUE PIGEY: Ck 1, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, C. R. & C. M. Diffenderfer; ck 1, 1911, E. C. Duffy. SILVER PIGEY: Ck 1, hen 1, ck 1, 1911, hen 1, 1911, E. C. Duffy; ck 2, hen 2, hen 2, 1911, C. R. & C. M. Diffenderfer. RED PIGEY: Ck 1, C. R. & C. M. Diffenderfer; hen 1, ck 1, 1911; hen 1, 1911, E. C. Duffy. YELLOW PIGEY: Ck 1, hen 1, C. R. & C. M. Diffenderfer; ck 1, 1911, E. C. Duffy. BLACK PIGEY: Ck 1, hen 1, ck 2, 1911, C. R. & C. M. Diffenderfer; ck 2, hen 2, hen 1, 1911, ck 1, 1911, E. C. Duffy. WHITE PIGEY: Ck 1, hen 2, C. R. & C. M. Diffenderfer; ck 2, hen 1, ck 1, 1911, hen 1, 1911, E. C. Duffy. ANY OTHER COLOR: Ck 1, C. R. & C. M. Diffenderfer; hen 1, ck 1, 1911, hen 1, 1911, E. C. Duffy.

FANTAILS—WHITE: Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, ck 1 and 2, 1911, hen 1 and 2, 1911, Havemeyer Bros.; ck 3, hen 3, H. M. Ford; hen 4, J. M. Black. RED OR YELLOW: Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, 1911, Havemeyer Bros.; ck 3, hen 3, hen 4 and 5, 1911, H. M. Ford; hen 4, hen 3, 1911, Linstead Farm. BLACK: Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, 1911, Havemeyer Bros.; hen 3, hen 3, 1911, H. M. Ford. BLUE: Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, Havemeyer Bros.; ck 3, hen 3, J. M. Black.

CARRIER—BLACK: Ck 1, 1911, Martin Rowllins.

JACOBINS—BLACK: Ck 1, hen 1 and 2, ck 1 and 2, 1911, A. B. Hoskins; ck 2 and 3, hen 3, ck 3, 1911, hen 1, 1911, H. M. Ford. RED: Ck 1 and 2, hen 2, ck 1 and 2, 1911, A. B. Hoskins; ck 3, hen 1, ck 3, 1911, H. M. Ford. YELLOW: Ck 1 and 2, hen 2 and 3, ck 2, 1911, hen 3, 1911, A. M. Ford; hen 1, ck 1, 1911, hen 1 and 2, 1911, A. B. Hoskins. WHITE: Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, ck 1, 2 and 3, 1911, A. B. Hoskins; ck 3, ck 4, 1911, hen 1, 1911, H. M. Ford.

ANY OTHER COLOR: Ck 1, 1911, hen 1, 1911, A. B. Hoskins. STOCK OR MISMARKED: Ck 1, A. B. Hoskins; ck 2, hen 1, H. M. Ford.

TUMBLERS—SHORT FACE ALMOND: Ck 1, Andrew Bros. BALD OR BEARD: Ck 1, hen 1, H. A. Jaeger. ANY OTHER COLOR: Hen 1, Andrew Bros. LONG FACE CLEAN LEG, RED: Ck 1, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, J. C. Toland; ck 2 and 4, hen 2, hen 3, 1911, H. A. Jaeger; ck 3, hen 3, hen 4, 1911, Andrew Bros.; hen 4, M. Rowllins; hen 2, 1911, M. Robbins. YELLOW: Ck 1, J. J. Davidson; ck 2, hen 1, hen 3, 1911, Andrew Bros.; ck 3, hen 3, hen 2, 1911, H. A. Jaeger; hen 2, hen 1, 1911, J. C. Toland; hen 4, M. Rowllins. BLACK: Ck 1, hen 2, H. A. Jaeger; ck 2 and 3, hen 1 and 3, hen 1 and 3, 1911, L. G. Broschkowsky; ck 4, Andrew Bros.; hen 2, 1911, J. C. Toland. WHITE: Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, 1911, L. G. Broschkowsky. BLACK MOTTLED OR ROSE: Ck 1, H. A. Jaeger; hen 1, Andrew Bros. RED MOTTLED OR ROSE: Ck 1, hen 1, H. A. Jaeger; ck 2, hen 1, 1911, Andrew Bros. YELLOW MOTTLED OR ROSE: Ck 1, ck 1, 1911, Andrew Bros.; ck 2, H. A. Jaeger. BLUE OR SILVER BALDHEAD: Hen 1, hen 1, 1911, Andrew Bros. RED OR YELLOW BALDHEAD: Ck 1, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, Andrew Bros. ANY OTHER COLOR BALDHEAD: Hen 1, 1911, Andrew Bros. ANY OTHER COLOR WHITESIDE: Ck 1, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, H. A. Jaeger. ANY OTHER VARIETY: Ck 1, 2, 3 and 4, M. Rowllins; ck 1, 1911, Andrew Bros. MUFFLED, A. O. C. OR ROSE: Ck 1, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, Andrew Bros. BLUE BARRED: Ck 1, hen 2, hen 1, 1911, H. A. Jaeger; ck 2, hen 1, hen 2, 1911, Andrew Bros. SILVER BARRED: Ck 1, 2 and 4, hen 1, 3 and 4, hen 1, 1911, H. A. Jaeger; ck 3, hen 2, Andrew Bros. RED SELF: Ck 2, H. A. Jaeger; ck 1, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, Andrew Bros. YELLOW SELF: Ck 1, H. A. Jaeger; ck 2, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, Andrew Bros.; ck 3, L. G. Rogge. ANY OTHER COLOR SELF: Ck 1, ck 1, 1911, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, Andrew Bros. PARLOR, RED OR YELLOW: Hen 1, hen 1, 1911, H. M. Ford; hen 2, 3, 4 and 5, 1911, W. L. J. Altwater. BLACK OR DUN: Hen 1, hen 5, 1911, H. M. Ford; hen 1, 2, 3 and 4, 1911, W. L. J. Altwater.

ORIENTAL, FRILLS—PLAIN HEAD SATINETTE: Ck 1, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, Dr. Chas. H. A. Meyer; ck 2, M. F. Kaylor; ck 3, J. H. Snyder; ck 4, hen 2, hen 2, 1911, W. Ehinger. CRESTED SATINETTE: Ck 1 and 2, hen 2, Dr. L. Hickman; ck 3, hen 1, C. Clusman; hen 1, 1911, Chas. H. A. Meyer; hen 2, 1911, W. Ehinger. BLACK LACED SATINETTE: Ck 1, hen 1, M. F. Kaylor; ck 2, hen 3, Dr. Chas. H. A. Meyer; ck 3, hen 2, J. H. Snyder; ck 4, hen 1, 1911, W. Ehinger. DUN LACED SATINETTE: Ck 1, Dr. Chas. H. A. Meyer; ck 2, hen 3, hen 2, 1911, W. Ehinger; hen 1 and 2, hen 1, 1911, C. Clusman; hen 4, M. F. Kaylor. ANY OTHER COLOR SATINETTE: Hen 1, 1911, W. Ehinger.

BLONDI NETTES—BARRED: All to Arthur Noble. BLACK LACED: Ck 1, M. F. Kaylor; ck 2 and 4, hen 1 and 4, Dr. Chas. H. A. Meyer; ck 3, hen 2, J. H. Snyder; ck 5, hen 3, hen 2, 1911, W. Ehinger; hen 1 and 3, 1911, W. L. Altland. BLUE LACED: Ck 1 and 2, hen 1, Dr. Chas. H. A. Meyer; ck 3, M. Rowllins; ck 4, hen 3, hen 3, 1911, W. Ehinger; hen 2, J. H. Snyder; hen 1, 1911, Arthur Noble; hen 2 and 4, 1911, W. L. Altland. DUN LACED: Ck 1, hen 1, Dr. Chas. H. A. Meyer; hen 2, M. F. Kaylor. ANY OTHER COLOR: Ck 1, hen 3, 1911, W. Ehinger; hen 1, A. Noble; hen 2, 1911, W. L. Altland; hen 1, 1911, M. F. Kaylor. BLUETTE OR SILVERETTE: Ck 1, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, M. F. Kaylor; ck 2, Dr. Chas. H. A. Meyer; ck 3, hen 2, 1911, Dr. L. Hickman; ck 4 and 5, L. G. Rogge; hen 3, 1911, C. Clusman; hen 4, 1911, W. Ehinger. ANY COLOR TURBITEEN: Ck 1, hen 1 and 2, hen 1, 1911, Dr. Chas. H. A. Meyer. ORIENTAL TURBIT: Ck 1 and 2, hen 3, hen 1 and 2, 1911, W. Ehinger; hen 1 and 2, Dr. Chas. H. A. Meyer.

TURBITS—BLACK OR DUN: Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, W. Harry Orr; ck 3, hen 3, L. F. Carson; ck 4, hen 4, T. J. McIntyre. BLUE OR SILVER: Ck 1 and 2, hen 1 and 2, W. Harry Orr; ck 3, hen 3, L. F. Carson; ck 4, hen 4, Herman Strauff. RED: Ck 1, hen 1, W. Harry Orr; ck 2, Herman Strauff. YELLOW: All to W. Harry Orr. ANY OTHER COLOR: Ck 1, T. J. McIntyre; ck 2, Dr. Chas. H. A. Meyer; hen 1, L. F. Carson. STOCK OR MISMARKED: Hen 1, L. F. Carson.

BLACK, DUN, BLUE OR SILVER, BRED 1911: Ck 1, hen 2, W. Harry Orr; ck 2, 3 and 4, hen 3 and 4, L. F. Carson; hen 1, Edmund B. Ulrich. RED OR YELLOW, BRED 1911: All to Edmund B. Ulrich. ANY OTHER COLOR OR STOCK, BRED 1911: Ck 1, Edmund B. Ulrich; ck 2, hen 4, Herman Strauff; hen 1 and 2, L. F. Carson; hen 3, T. J. McIntyre.

MAGPIES—BLACK: Ck 1, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, W. Ehinger; hen 2 and 3, 1911, T. J. McIntyre. YELLOW: Ck 1, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, W. Ehinger. RED: Ck 1, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, W. Ehinger. BLUE: Ck 1, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, W. Ehinger. ANY OTHER COLOR: Ck 1, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, W. Ehinger.

DRAGOONS—BLUE: Ck 1 and 3, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, J. M. Sessions; ck 2, hen 2, 1911, A. J. Ringgold; ck 4, C. A. Weiller; hen 2, hen 3, 1911, A. W. Newcomer. GRIZZLE: All to J. M. Sessions. YELLOW: Ck 1, 2 and 4, hen 1, 2 and 3, ck 1, 2 and 3, 1911, hen 1, 2 and 3, 1911, J. N. Sessions; ck 3, Jos. Hock; ck 5, J. J. Davidson. RED: Ck 1, hen 1, 1911, Jos. Hock; hen 1, A. J. Ringgold. BLACK: Hen 1, A. W. Newcomer. WHITE: Ck 1 and 3, hen 1 and 2, ck 1, 2 and 3, 1911, hen 1, 2 and 3, 1911, E. P. Klotz; ck 2, A. W. Newcomer; ck 4 and 5, Jos. Hock. ANY OTHER COLOR: All to A. W. Newcomer. BLUE OR SILVER RUNT: All to C. A. Weiller. ANY OTHER COLOR RUNT: Ck 1, hen 1, hen 1, 1911, Jas. B. Cook.

OWL—ENGLISH: All to J. C. Donovan. AFRICAN, BLUE: Ck 1, hen 3, 1911, Harry Ulrich; ck 2 and 4, hen 1, hen 1 and 2, 1911, C. H. Glase; ck 3, A. D. Robinson; ck 5, hen 3, C. A. Weiller; hen 2 and 4, J. C. Donovan. SILVER: Ck 1, hen 2, Harry Ulrich; ck 2, hen 1, 1911, A. D. Robinson; hen 1, C. H. Glase. BLACK: Ck 1, 2, 3 and 4, hen 1, 2 and 3, hen 1, 2, 3 and 4, 1911, A. D. Robinson; ck 5, A. L. W. Larson; hen 4, J. C. Donovan. WHITE: Ck 1, hen 2 and 3, hen 3 and 5, 1911, A. D. Robinson; ck 2, hen 4, A. L. W. Larson; ck 3, hen 1, Harry Ulrich; ck 4, hen 2, 1911, J. C. Donovan; hen 1 and 4, 1911, Dr. Chas. H. A. Meyer. ANY OTHER COLOR: Ck 1, 2 and 3, hen 1, 4 and 5, hen 1, 2 and 4, 1911, A. D. Robinson; ck 4, hen 3, 1911, Harry Ulrich; ck 5, hen 2, J. C. Donovan; hen 3, A. L. W. Larson. CHINESE: All to J. C. Donovan. ANY COLOR TAIL: Ck 1 and 3, ck 1, 1911, J. C. Donovan; ck 2, A. L. W. Larson. SPOT OR FAIRY SWALLOW: Ck 1, Loetz and Rosenbauer. BLACK NUN: All to T. J. McIntyre. RED OR YELLOW NUN: All to T. J. McIntyre. ANY OTHER COLOR NUN: All to T. J. McIntyre. DARK BRONZE ARCHANGEL: All to M. J. Kafer. BLACK TRUMPETER: All to M. Rowllins. BLUE SHOW HOMERS: All to Dr. Chas. H. A. Meyer. RED OR RED CHECKER SHOW HOMER: All to Dr. Chas. H. A. Meyer. ANY OTHER COLOR SHOW HOMER: All to Dr. Chas. H. A. Meyer. BLUE FLYING HOMER: All to Bennett Bros. BLUE CHECKER FLYING HOMER: All to Bennett Bros. RED CHECKER FLYING HOMER: All to Bennett Bros. ANY COLOR FLYING HOMERS: All to Bennett Bros. BLACK OR BLUE CRESTED HELMET: All to John Brendel. RED OR YELLOW CRESTED HELMET: All to John Brendel. ANY OTHER COLOR CRESTED HELMET: All to John Brendel. RED CARNEAUX: Ck 1, hen 1, ck 1, 1911, hen 1, 1911, Green Spring Valley Pigeon Lofts; ck 2, ck 2, 1911, J. W. Williamson. YELLOW CARNEAUX: All to J. W. Williamson.

MALTESE HEN PIGEONS—BLACK: All to Allen B. Davis. BLUE OR SILVER: Ck 1, hen 1, Green Spring Valley Pigeon Lofts; ck 1, 1911, Allen B. Davis. WHITE: All to Allen B. Davis. ANY OTHER COLOR: All to Allen B. Davis. BLACK OR BLUE PRIEST: All to Loetz and Rosenbauer. ANY COLOR BEMBERGER ISABEL TRUMPETER, BRED 1911: All to Herman Strauff. ANY COLOR FRILLBACKS: All to A. J. Ringgold. ANY COLOR SCANDARONS: All to J. J. Ringgold. ANY COLOR FLYING TIPLER: All to E. J. Lessner. ANY HALF-BRED OR CROSS FOR SQUAB BREEDING, ANY COLOR: Ck 1, hen 1, Jas. B. Cook; ck 2, hen 2, Green Spring Valley Pigeon Lofts. ANY OTHER VARIETY NOT MENTIONED, ANY COLOR: Ck 1, hen 1, Green Spring Valley Pigeon Lofts; ck 2, hen 2, Loetz and Rosenbauer; ck 3, hen 3, Louis McLane Fischer. 400 MILE RECORD HOMER: All to A. E. Mobry. 500 MILE OR OVER RECORD HOMER: All to J. M. McAbee. 150 MILE COCK OR HEN, BRED 1911: To J. M. McAbee.

CLASSIFIED ADS

PRICES FOR CLASSIFIED ADS.

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PLYMOUTH ROCKS

BEECH BANK BARRED ROCKS. EGGS for hatching from carefully selected stock. \$1 per 15; \$5 per 100. Mary F. Sewall, Forest Glen, Md.

WHITE ROCKS—WINNERS AT THE best Southern shows. None better. Eggs three dollars for fifteen. William H. Burch, Box 850, Charleston, S. C.

PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCKS — "Noftzgers Strain." Some choice cockerels for sale. Eggs in season. My stock is second to none. Write me for prices. G. I. Johnson, Fulton, S. D.

BOWMAN'S CHOICE BARRED PLYMOUTH Rock cockerels \$2 each. Eggs from choice matings, \$1.50 per fifteen. F. S. Bowman, Elliott City, Md.

RINGLET BARRED ROCKS, FROM RINGLET ancestors. Prize-winning matings. Beauties. Stock and eggs for sale. Strawberry plants. Satisfaction guaranteed. Catalog free. John W. Hall, Marion Station, Md.

WYANDOTTES

"REGAL" WHITE WYANDOTTES "DUSTON." Direct from Martiu. Stay white. Chicks: 20 cents; 100, \$15. Eggs: 15, \$1.50; 50, \$4; 100, \$6. Elwood Taylor, Berwyn, Md.

1,500 DUSTON STRAIN WHITE WYANDOTTES. 50-acre farm. Remember, I am a specialist. No mixture; they are pure. Allen Sechrist, Port Trevortown, Pa.

WYANDOTTES — BOYD'S WASHINGTON Strain of Black Wyandottes are still winning. Stock and eggs for sale. Write for circular and prices. Geo. H. Boyd, 1255 Morse St. N. E., Washington, D. C.

WYANDOTTES—STOCK AND EGGS TO sell from winners at Washington, Warrenton, Richmond, etc. Circular giving winnings and prices sent on request. W. W. Thomas, Catlett, Va.

REGAL AND DUSTON WHITE WYANDOTTES cockerels. \$2 to \$5 each. Low blacky, good shape. Sire of above a sixty-dollar bird. John Pfeegor, Milton, Pa.

LEGHORNS

BREEDING S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS. Exclusive eggs for sale, \$2 per 15, or \$5 per 100. Satisfaction guaranteed. John M. Yerger, Gilbertsville, Pa.

ROSE COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—WINNERS at Madison Square, Buffalo and Roebester. Mating list and circular. Eight grand pens. Box F, Howard J. Fisk, Falconer, N. Y.

SINGLE COMB WHITE LEGHORNS—(America's greatest business fowl). The Young and Newtown strains. The 1912 matings are better than ever in color, shape and head points. Can not help but produce winners. Heavy layers of large, white eggs. \$2 a setting; 3 settings for \$5. Holiday Heights Poultry Farm, Sellersville, Pa.

EGGS, DAY-OLD CHICKS, STOCK FROM large, pure white, vigorous, bred-to-day Single Comb White Leghorns. None better. Fertility guaranteed. Catalog free. Perkasio Poultry Co., Perkasio, Pa.

S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS AND WHITE Rocks, of world's best strains. Eggs in season. Stock at all times. Susquehanna Yards, Route 2, Wrightsville, Pa.

BUFF LEGHORNS—A FEW CHOICE cockerels at very moderate prices. Eggs, \$3 per fifty; \$5 per hundred. Queen Anne's Poultry Farm, Crumpton, Md.

ROSE-COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—SOME fine young stock for \$1 up. Send for my list winnings. James G. Todd, Punxsutawney, Pa., Route 4.

DOMINIQUE

CARTER'S DOMINIQUE WON EVERY first prize at the last Boston show in a hot class. Beautiful cockerels and pullets for sale, low. A. Q. Carter, Freeport, Me.

AMERICAN DOMINIQUE—FIRST-PRIZE New York and Boston winners head my pens. Also, Columbian Wyandottes. Old English Games. Dr. Harwood, Chasman Falls, Malone, N. Y.

ORPINGTONS

BLACK ORPINGTON WINNERS AT 7 shows this year, including Baltimore, Hagerstown, for sale. Also Whites. Eggs for hatching. R. D. Lillie, Takoma Park, D. C.

ORPINGTONS—WHITE (BOTH COMBS) Single Comb Buff, Black. New York, Boston, Allentown, Hagerstown, Williamsport winners. Eggs. Baby chicks. Prices reasonable. Mating list free. Wm. Seidel, Box H, Washingtonville, Pa.

FINEST EXHIBITION QUALITY. SURE winners at utility prices. Orpingtons, all varieties. Buff Wyandottes. Best R. C. Rhode Island Reds in America. Orpington Yards, Delavan, Wis.

CRYSTAL WHITE ORPINGTONS FROM Kellerstrass \$30 mating. Fine cockerels at \$3 each. Pullets, \$2 each. Eggs, \$3 per 15. W. H. Gantz, Sbrewsbury, Pa.

SIX BLACK ORPINGTON COCKERELS, April-hatched, from heavy laying strain. Grand for show or utility. All beauties. From \$3 to \$8 each. Write today. (Miss) Daisy Gladhill, Route 6, Frederick, Md.

PURE KELLERSTRASS WHITE ORPINGTONS, hen-hatched, farm-raised, both sexes, all ages, at bargain prices. I ship on approval. Write J. R. Inskeep, Holly, Mich.

CRYSTAL WHITE ORPINGTONS FROM Kellerstrass famous \$30 matings, and Cook strain; R. C. R. I. Reds from prize-winners. Eggs \$2 per 15. John E. Stone-sifer, Westminster, Md.

BANTAMS

BANTAM SPECIALIST—BUFF, BLACK, Partridge Cochins and Light Brahmas. I ship on approval—circular free. Geo. C. Salmon, Port Dickinson, N. Y.

MOHAWK BANTAM YARDS. HIGH-Class, Exhibition Black Red and Red Pyle Games, Rose Comb Blacks, Partridge and Buff Cochins. Shipped on approval. Box B, Schenectady, N. Y.

JAPANESE, ROSE COMBS, FRIZZLES, Polish, Cochins, Silkies, Sultans. No circular. M. Hurd, Marshall, Mich.

BLACK-BREADED RED GAME BANTAMS. Prize-winning stock of good quality, and good, ready birds. Alexander Meyer, 363 Orchard St., Rochester, N. Y.

BANTAMS, EGGS, 34 VARIETIES. SEND 2-cent stamp for circular. A. A. Fenn, Box 92, Delavan, Wis.

Awards at Richmond, Virginia

PLYMOUTH ROCKS—BARRED: Ck. 1, G. E. Guvernator; ck. 2 and 4, hen 2, ckl. 1, 3 and 5, pul 2 and 5, young pen 1 and 3, Leslie M. McCue; ck. 3, old pen 2, young 2 and 4, L. H. Reade; ck. 5, A. W. Kemp; hen 1, ckl. 2, pul 3 and 4, Louise Washer; hen 3, pul. 1, H. M. Gaines; hen 4, old pen 4, L. E. Myers; hen 5, W. M. Macon, ckl. 4, E. C. Spain; old pen 1, Sysonby Gardens; old pen 5, E. M. Allen, WHITE: Ck. 1 and 3, hen 1 and 3, ckl. 5, pul. 1, J. W. Dennis; ck. 2, hen 4, ckl. 1, 2 and 3, pul. 3 and 4, old pen 2, young pen 2 and 3, F. W. Warner; hen 2 and 5, pul 5, old pen 1 and 3, Sysonby Gardens; ckl. 4, pul. 2, F. J. Depe; young pen 1, J. W. Coffmann; young pen 4, E. C. Cheshire; old pen 4, T. M. Bellamy. BUFF: Ck. 1, hen 5, ckl. 1, pul. 1, 2 and 3, old pen 1 and 2, young pen 1 and 2, B. Carprew; hen 1, 2, 3 and 4, Sysonby Gardens. PARTRIDGE: Ck. 1, 2 and 3, pul. 1, 2 and 3, J. W. Dennis.

WYANDOTTES—SILVER LACED: Ck. 1, hen 1, ckl. 2, pul 1 and 2, old hen 1, young hen 1, J. W. Dennis; ck. 2, ckl. 1, pul 3 and 4, young pen 2, C. C. King. WHITE: Ck. 1, pul 2, young pen 3, Success Poultry Farm; ck. 2, ckl. 4, pul 3, young pen 2, E. W. Ligon; ck. 3, hen 1, ckl. 1 and 2, pul 1, old pen 1, young pen 1, J. F. Dunstan; ck. 4 and 5, hen 2, 4 and 5, ckl. 5, pul 4, old pen 2 and 3, R. R. Taylor; hen 3, ckl. 3, C. J. Rountree. PARTRIDGE: Pul 1 and 2, J. A. Davis.

JAVAS—BLACK: All to C. R. Ballentine.

RHODE ISLAND REDS—SINGLE COMB: Ck. 1, ckl. 1, old pen 1, Fred B. Jones; ck. 2, hen 2, young pen 5, C. A. Reeves; ck. 3, hen 1, H. M. Burrows; ck. 4, Sysonby Gardens; ck. 5, ckl. 4, young pen 1 and 3, A. E. Cralle; ckl. 2, J. T. Rutherford; ckl. 3, pul 1, young pen 2, D. Scott Minton; ckl. 5, pul 3 and 5, old pen 2, T. H. Martin; pul 2, C. E. Gildersleeve; pul 4, Allen Jenkins; young pen 4, J. D. Griffin. ROSE COMB: Ck. 3, ckl. 2, pul 2 and 3, Jos. Burns; ckl. 1 and 3, J. J. Cooper; pul 1, young pen 1, W. L. Froman.

BRAHMAS—LIGHT: Ck. 1, hen 2, G. E. Guvernator; ck. 2, hen 1, J. W. Dennis; pul 1, Geo. Sipp.

COCHINS—BUFF: Hen 1, 2 and 3, ckl. 1, pul 1, 2 and 3, old pen 1, G. E. Guvernator; hen 4, Geo. Sipp.

LANGSHANS—BLACK: Ck. 1, hen 2, ckl. 3, pul 2 and 3, A. M. Clemence; ck. 2 and 3, hen 1 and 3, ckl. 4, pul 5, G. E. Guvernator; ckl. 1 and 2, pul 1 and 4, old pen 1, young pen 1, 3 and 4, T. E. McCracken; young pen 2, Chas. A. Smith.

LEGHORNS—S. C. BROWN: Ck. 1, hen 1, 2, 4 and 5, ckl. 2, pul 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, old pen 1, young pen 1, S. S. Burch; ck. 2, hen 3, old pen 2, young pen 2, L. E. Myer; ckl. 1, J. W. Snellings. S. C. WHITE: Ck. 1 and 3, hen 1, 3 and 5, pul 1, 2 and 3, A. J. Warren; ck. 2, ckl. 5, pul 5, old pen 1, young pen 2, W. R. Todd; ck. 5, G. W. Winston; ck. 4, F. J. Pepe; hen 2 and 4, ckl. 4, young pen 1, Success Poultry Farm; ckl. 1 and 3, Densmore Poultry Farm; ckl. 2, pul 4, J. S. Ford; old pen 2, young pen 3, A. E. D. Holden; old pen 3, B. Carprew. S. C. BUFF: All to Success Poultry Farm. R. C. WHITE: All to G. E. Guvernator. S. C. BLACK: All to G. E. Guvernator. RED PYLE: All to G. E. Guvernator.

MINORCAS—S. C. BLACK: Ck. 1, hen 1 and 2, ckl. 1 and 4, pul 4, W. F. Duncan; ck. 2, hen 5, ckl. 2, pul 3, old pen 2, young pen 3 and 4, C. F. Cross; ck. 3, ckl. 3, Nelson Palmore; ck. 4, hen 4, ckl. 5, pul 1, 2 and 5, young pen 2, old pen 3, J. T. Rutherford; ck. 5, hen 3, old pen 1, young pen 1, J. W. Snellings. R. C. BLACK: All to Wm. R. Moore.

ORPINGTONS—S. C. BLACK: Ck. 1, ckl. 1 and 2, G. F. Lenz; ck. 2, L. E. Rayhan; hen 1, 3 and 5, ckl. 3, Old Dominion Orpington Yards; hen 2 and 4, A. J. Warren; ckl. 4, pul 3 and 4, E. B. Freeman; ckl. 5, pul 5, T. C. Shennon; pul 1 and 2, young pen 2, W. J. Luke; young pen 1, H. M. Brockmyer. R. C. BUFF: All to W. C. Schaff. S. C. BUFF: Ck. 1, hen 1, pul 1, old pen 1 and 2, young pen 3, W. C. Schaff; hen 2, young pen 4, old pen 4, W. O. Fairholt; ckl. 1, 2 and 3, pul 2, 3, 4 and 5, young pen 2, J. T. Webb; ckl. 4 and 5, H. B. Vesey; old pen 3 and 5, A. L. Hart; young pen 1, W. J. Luke; young pen 5, H. S. Tompkins. S. C. WHITE: Ck. 1, hen 2 and 4, G. E. Guvernator; ck. 2, pul 1, young pen 2 and 3, old pen 3, L. C. Catlett; ck. 3, Piedmont Poultry Farm; ck. 4, R. L. Brown; ck. 5, Old Dominion Orpington Yards; hen 1 and 5, ckl. 5, old pen 1, F. S. Bullington; hen 3, ckl. 2, pul 4 and 5, L. C. Claybrook; ckl. 1, G. F. Lenz; ckl. 3 and 4, young pen 1, W. J. Luke; pul 2, L. E. Wilson; pul 3, J. J. Marsh; old pen 2, J. T. Williams; young pen 4, T. H. Martin; young pen 5, G. L. Lewis.

MISCELLANEOUS BREEDS.

POLISH—W. C. BLACK: Ck. 1, 2 and 3, hen 2 and 3, G. E. Guvernator; hen 1, ckl. 1, pul 1, G. B. Maynard. BUFF LACE, GOLDEN AND SILVER: All to G. E. Guvernator. SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURGERS: All to G. E. Guvernator. HOUDANS: Ck. 1, hen 2, C.

B. Maynard; ck. 2 and 3, hen 3, ckl. 1, pul 1, G. E. Guvernator; hen 1, C. R. McKinnie. BLACK SUMATRAS: All to Robert B. Fraser. BUTTERCUPS: Ck. 1, hen 1, ckl. 1, pul 1, R. W. Owen; pul 1, 2, 3 and 4, A. W. Chase. CAPONS: All to Wm. Camp. WHITE JAPANESE SILKIES: All to G. E. Guvernator.

GAMES—B. B. RED: All to W. H. M. Reed. PIT: Ck. 1, hen 2, J. C. Biddle; ck. 2, hen 1, ckl. 1, pul 1, W. Gainson; ck. 3, T. J. Wood. WHITE GAME AND WHITE CORNISH: All to G. E. Guvernator.

BANTAMS — LIGHT BRAHMAS, BLACK GAME, B. B. RED GAME, SILVER DUCKWING GAME: All to G. E. Guvernator. WHITE POLISH: All to J. H. C. Winston. BLACK TAIL JAP: Ck. 1, hen 2 and 3, ckl. 1, 2 and 3, pul 1, 2 and 3, E. S. Meadow; ck. 2, hen 1, C. F. Cross. RED PYLE GAME AND R. C. BLACK: All to J. W. Dennis. GOLDEN SEABRIGHT: Ck. 2, hen 2 and 4, pul 1, G. E. Guvernator; ck. 1 and 3, hen 1 and 3, J. W. Dennis. BLACK COCHIN: Ck. 1, hen 1, 2 and 3, G. E. Guvernator; ckl. 1, 2 and 3, pul 1, J. W. Dennis. PARTRIDGE COCHIN: All to G. E. Guvernator. BUFF COCHINS: Ck. 1, hen 1, Geo. J. Sipp; ck. 2, ckl. 1, pul 2, E. S. Meadow; ck. 3, ckl. 2, pul 1, J. D. Griffin; ck. 4, hen 2, J. G. Sawyer.

DUCKS—INDIAN RUNNER: Drake 1, duck 1 and 2, Success Poultry Farm; drake 1 and 2, duck 1 and 2, W. F. Duncan. WHITE PEKIN: All to A. L. Hart. WHITE MUSCOVY: All to R. R. Taylor. BLUE SWEDISH: All to J. W. Dennis. GEESE—TOULOUSE AND BROWN CHINA: All to J. W. Dennis. TURKEYS—WHITE HOLLAND: All to R. R. Taylor. BRONZE: All to E. C. Spain. PIGEONS—All to C. H. Whitehurst.

A Hen Story

[Georgetown (Del.) Dispatch to Philadelphia Record.]

Grieved over the death of his companion in the poultry yard of William Lacey, in Georgetown, "Mike," a big brown rooster, committed suicide by hanging himself in a manner that left no doubts as to his intention.

Although many who saw the dead rooster have laughed over the idea of a rooster having committed suicide, Lacey and his family and other neighbors who watched the big bird are thoroughly convinced that it was a clear case of broken heart and suicide. In the poultry house there have been two roosters, "Mike" and a big white one. They were uncommon friends and always could be seen together. Last week the white rooster died. "Mike" seemed to miss his companion and at once began to droop and sit with his head under his wing. The neighbors particularly watched his dejection, and none were surprised when late in the afternoon "Mike" deliberately walked up to the yard fence and, flying in the air, caught his neck between the palings, and with a jerk broke his own neck. "Mike" was buried in the yard beside the white rooster, whose comradeship he had so greatly missed.

BABY CHICKS

We are now booking orders for spring delivery Kellerstrass \$30 Matings of Single Comb White Orpingtons and White Leghorns; also imported Mammoth Imperial Pekin ducks. Mating list on request.

C. L. PARKHURST, Mansfield, Pa.

YOU NEED THIS OUTFIT

for spraying your poultry houses. It drives the disinfectants into every crack and crevice. It has no superior as a general barrel spraying equipment. It is solidly built on skids and shipped ready to use. All parts are easy to get at; pump is outside; bronze ball valves; hemp packing; automatic agitator. This

IRON AGE
No. 190 Horizontal Barrel Sprayer is adapted for every purpose for which a sprayer is needed. Row attachments for field work. See it today at your dealer's. Write for special booklets. Complete line farm, garden and orchard tools.
BATEMAN MFG CO.
Box 300H Grenloch, N. J.

Where Market Poultry Pays Best

(Concluded from page 13.)

A man can go in the duck business on a more extensive scale than he can in any other branch of the poultry business, for the reason that he can depend more on hired labor, as there is not the fine labor required for ducks that there is for chickens, guineas or turkeys.

A sandy or a well-drained soil is important. Too great care can not be used in the selection of the breeders. The stock should have long, low-hanging keel, with large heads and thick necks. The legs should be heavy and of a rich, reddish orange shade.

Mr. Twining says weakness in the vitality will show up as quickly in a duck's eyes as anywhere. Watch out for weak, watery eyes.

On Afton Farm the ducks are fed for eggs (bulk measurement) one part bran, one part middlings, one part low-grade flour, one part whole corn, two parts whole wheat, two parts cornmeal, four parts cut clover hay, 12 per cent beef scraps, sand, grit and oyster shell, all they will eat. Mix with water till crumbly. Should there be a looseness of the bowels, the amount of middlings is increased, and if too tight, the amount is decreased. The quantity of corn, too, is varied according to the weather. The amount of cornmeal is so regulated that it will keep the breeders neither too thin nor too fat. Meat scrap affects the fertility—where too much is used there will be a lot of rotten eggs. If the fertility is low, the amount of beef scrap should be increased.

As a rule, the duck lays between four and eight o'clock in the morning. As ducks do not lay in nests, but drop the eggs anywhere on the floor, they should be gathered promptly at eight or some of them may be broken.

On Afton Farm the duck eggs are set daily instead of every four days, as used to be the custom. This gives better hatches. Duck eggs will not remain in good condition as long as will hen eggs.

Afton Farm believes in bathing water for the breeding ducks. This bathing affords exercise, keeping the stock in better condition, and there is better fertility. The ducklings raised for market are not allowed water excepting for drink. A muddy or dirty duck will not thrive.

When shipped to market all the ducks are dry-picked. Dry-picked ducks bring a cent per pound more than scalded ducks, or five cents per duck. The cost of picking dry is two cents per head over scalding. Thus there is a gain of three cents per head, or \$600 a year.

"We, at Afton Farm, are thoroughly convinced that it pays to do things right," says Mr. Twining. "Haste makes waste, we are told. Do your work as rapidly as possible, but take time enough to do it well and at the right time."

BABY CHICKS

FROM STANDARD BRED WINNERS AT NEW YORK, CHICAGO, BOSTON, ST. LOUIS AND CLEVELAND. EGG RECORD 280. EVERY CHICK GUARANTEED. Barred White and Buff Rocks, Brown, White and Buff Leghorns, Black, White and Buff Orpingtons, White Wyandottes, R. I. Reds, Black Minorcas, Anconas, Baby I. R. Ducks. Safe arrival guaranteed. Price, 8c up.

FIRELESS BROODER

made of double walled air cell waterproof cardboard, covered with galvanized steel, guaranteed to last a life time. Price, \$3.00.

NLAND HATCHERY, ATTICA, O.

COCHINS

BUFF COCHINS—150 FOR SALE. FINE in size, shape, color and feathering. At prices within reach of all. Write your wants. Luther Ulum, Keswick, Iowa.

BUFF COCHINS—YOUNG AND OLD stock for sale. Eggs in season. Thirteen years a specialist. Catalogue free. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. S. Berger, Pleasant Hill, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND WHITES

JOCJOY ORIGINATED THE R. I. WHITES more than twenty years ago. They lead the reds for quick maturing, are better layers and are easier to breed. Booklet free. J. A. Jocoy, Towanda, Pa.

RHODE ISLAND WHITES—DESTINED to become as popular as the Reds. Send for photos and price of stock. Alfred Hopper, Highland, N. Y.

RHODE ISLAND WHITES. EXCELLENT winter layers. Eggs from fine matings, \$2 per fifteen. Arthur J. Deex, Berea, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND REDS

SINGLE COMB REDS. DEEP, CLEAR red. Tompkins strain. Undisputed quality. Crowded for room. Either sex \$1 each, while they last. Write Peter Erickson, Cabool, Mo.

MINORCAS

NUMBER OF FINE EARLY-HATCHED Single-Comb Black Minorca cockerels for sale. Price, \$3. Great laying strain. W. R. Brock, So. Kortright, N. Y.

LANGSHANS

BLACK LANGSHANS—FIFTEEN YEARS a breeder of prize winners. Fine breeders from \$1 to \$3 each; trios, \$5. C. R. Smith, Burnt Prairie, Ill.

POLISH

WHITE-CRESTED BLACK POLISH SHOW birds and breeding stock. None better; few as good. Stock for sale at all times. Eggs in season. Chas. L. Seely, Afton, N. Y.

HOUDANS

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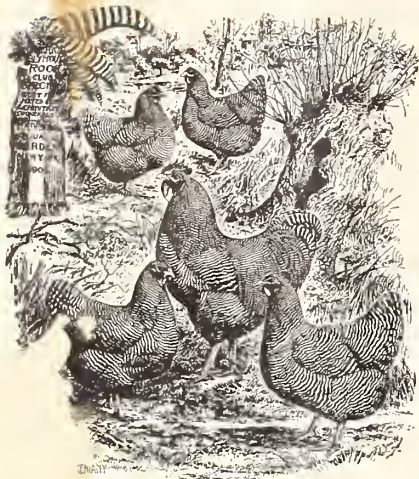
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Vol. XVI. No. 3
MARCH, 1912

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AN EGG RECORD

1,568 Eggs from Eight Single Comb Rhode Island Red
Hens in a Year.

By T. CHRISTMAN

An average of 196 each; \$4.18 per hen at market price. As I said in a previous communication such averages are common if the laying strain is in the stock and such performance only corroborates my assertion. I hear, a kind reader ask: "How is the trick done?" Well, this article would not be complete if I did not tell.

The first essential is in having the right kind of stock and the second essential is a thorough knowledge of the fundamental principles of feeding. Of all the perplexing questions relating to poultry culture, none are receiving more careful and thoughtful consideration by poultry breeders than those relating to the best method of feeding. While admitting that my method may not be the best method, it gives satisfaction on our farm and I believe that if followed out closely by any one who may wish to try it, good results will follow.

Green foods, beef scraps, grit, shells and ground bone, as usually fed, constitute but a small part of the daily ration; the bulk of the food being made up of the different kinds of grains, such as wheat, oats, barley, corn, buckwheat, kaffir corn, rice, sunflower seed, etc., fed either whole or ground. The ground grain is either fed in hoppers in a dry form or in the form of a moist mash in the evening and the whole grain is scattered in the litter twice a day to make the fowls exercise.

The above may seem a formidable list of stuff and I know many think it is very expensive and then again out of reach of many. It is only a list to select from. Of course, if one can get them all and mix them so as to get a balanced ration most excellent results ought to follow. On our farm corn, oats and wheat form the bulk of grain used. I make it a point always to buy the best obtainable as the best is always the cheapest. I give screenings a wide berth unless they are produced on the place. In that case twice as much ought to be fed.

In winter we feed one part of each. In summer we omit the corn altogether, as it is too heating. This (the corn being cracked fine and the meal sifted out) is scattered in litter morning and noon. Three times a week we omit the grain feed and substitute green food, such as beets, turnips and cabbage. The evening mash is made up of 8 parts of good wheat bran, 1 part of corn chop, 1 part of ground oats, 1 part of oil meal, 1 part of middlings, 1 part of gluten meal, and 1 part of beef scraps. If milk can be had in mixing the mess the beef scraps can be left out. We give the fowls all that they will eat up clean in ten minutes. After that a few handfuls of mixed grain are scattered in the litter, which keeps the birds busy till dark. This is for the Single Comb Rhode Island Reds on the place. For the Single Comb White Leghorns more corn can be fed. Of course, some kind of grit and oyster shells must be supplied where the fowls are confined. To that granulated bone and charcoal can be added.

The fat, sluggish, overfed hen is unprofitable. It is the one which pecks at the mash a few times and then turns away, wipes its bill on the litter and goes to the roost for the night. If it is a valuable one, give it a dose of

castor oil (a teaspoonful will do) and starve it this way. Put it in a pen by itself and feed wheat and oats only in deep litter and that sparingly for two weeks. Then it can be put back in the pen and in a few weeks it will lay again. Watch that hen. If it is a common one keep it till you invite your minister to dinner. He will praise it and all will enjoy it.

We do not use the hopper on this place. We feed according to appetite. Our judgment tells us just how much to feed as soon as we see our flocks. If they are active and run to us they are ready for a hearty meal. If they are slow and keep away from us they need nothing. Better keep them hungry than overfed them.

Here is a letter from a fellow breeder. I give it in full so any one who is similarly situated can try it:

"A cheap way to furnish your hens green food all winter and get eggs as in summer, is to supply silage. Last winter we built a small silo, forty-four inches across and twelve feet deep and filled it with green corn cut one-fourth inch long. We commenced to feed our flock with silage the twenty-eighth of November and never missed a feed until May 15, when we fed the last of the silage. Our eggs cost us just three cents a dozen, and during the winter months we got twenty-five, thirty and thirty-five cents a dozen. Here is what we fed and how we fed it: We had oats and corn ground together—equal parts. We took three and one-third pounds each of this meal and wheat bran and shorts, making ten pounds of ground feed. We put one-half bushel of the silage in a big iron kettle, poured one gallon of boiling water over it, then we added the ten pounds of ground feed and stirred it thoroughly. This is just the right amount of silage, water and ground feed to make a crumbling mess to feed to the best advantage. The chickens eat everything but the cobs and the joints in the stalks which did not break up. This was the amount fed a flock of two hundred and forty chickens. At night we fed three gallons of corn, which was all they ever would clean up, and sometimes they would leave a portion of it. In the worst winter it only cost us thirty-five cents a day to feed them. In January we got as high as ninety-four eggs a day. In February one hundred and thirty-four per day; March, one hundred and seventy-four per day; April, one hundred and forty-five per day, and May, one hundred and forty-four per day. Is not that about all a man can expect from that number of hens?"

"They continued to lay well until in July, when some of them began to moult, and now (November 25) the first ones which moulted have a new coat of feathers and are laying again. We raised over one hundred pullets this season, and built another silo in order to have plenty of green feed to run the flock until green stuff is plentiful next year. In connection with what I stated, give them all plenty of good grit and all the clean water they want, as they can not and will not lay eggs when they are suffering for the want of water. If any one takes the proper care of the chickens, success is assured."

This is the cheapest way to feed chickens we ever heard of. In time we will build such a silo to have plenty of green stuff both for our cows and

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Exercise and sanitation will make your birds healthy and vigorous—make your hens lay more eggs. In days before specialized poultry culture, the flocks ran at large and got their exercise in daily searching and scratching for food, avoiding unsanitary surroundings. But for the modern, money-making poultryman, the old customs would spell failure. They are impossible. But no less certain is failure, where the flock is confined, unless exercise and clean yards are supplied. What is your alternative?

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Iron Age, No. 11, for turning up new, sweet soil for scratching. You and every other poultryman need one—costs only \$2.50—Iron Age quality. With extra attachments you can do your own garden cultivating. Ask your dealer to show it. Write us for special booklets today. Complete line of farm, garden and orchard tools. Bateman Mfg Co. Box 3003 Grenloch, N. J.

chickens. By the way, can not silage be kept in 50 gallon barrels? Must they be topped tight? Must they be kept where it does not freeze? I wish some of the "knowing ones" would enlighten me on this subject.

"The Plymouth Rocks"

The sixth edition of a book entitled "The Plymouth Rocks" has recently been published by the Reliable Poultry Journal, edited by W. C. Denny. It treats of the practical qualities of standard-bred Barred, White, Buff, Silver Penciled, Partridge and Columbian Plymouth Rocks, giving standard requirements, based upon the latest American Standard of Perfection. The best known and most expert Plymouth Rock breeders in America have contributed to this book, telling how to judge, mate and breed the different varieties for best results. The subjects of line breeding and of single and double mating are carefully handled. This book is fully illustrated by F. L. Sewell, A. D. Schilling, I. W. Burgess and H. G. Froby, and contains full page pictures in natural colors of the Barred, White and Buff varieties, reproduced from Sewell paintings. Send \$1.00 for a copy of this book and a year's subscription to The Feather, The Feather Publishing Company, Washington, D. C.

Sanitation Time

The season when sanitation is essential is now at hand. Keeping fowls in filthy quarters is criminal, and the keeper should be denied the right of keeping them at all. It is easy to keep the premises clean and a little work done each day along these lines will accomplish this result. You can not be too careful about these matters, nor too particular as to sanitation. Clean up and keep the place clean. Disinfect the houses and nests and brighten up things generally. Be liberal with the whitewash and use plenty of fresh material in the nests. Make a strenuous fight against the lice and mites, and keep constantly after them or they will surely cause you trouble. Once they get the best of you it is no easy task to get rid of them. Poultry and vermin never flourish together.

Winter Care

As the winter months are on and the eggs are soaring high in price, it means that good care should be taken of the fowls. See that the houses are in good shape and the birds are in good health. Now is the time to give a little condition powder in the mash to regulate their systems if they are sluggish after the moult, as it will live them up for their winter work. During the cold days that are coming, get a good, deep litter to make them work for their morning feed, as it will give them vigor. Don't feed too much so that they will fill up and sit around and get in the corner and mope. Give them a small allowance in the early morning, so that by 10 o'clock they will be ready for a little green food that will live them up again and keep the ball rolling. About 1 o'clock they will relish a small feed of mash or ground bone. That will keep them busy until their night feed, which should be of hardy grain and warm, so their organs will have some work to do overnight. In this way they will welcome you every time you go in the house with their song and cheer that mean health and vigor. It won't be many weeks before the eggs will begin to come your way and you will get a good return for your work. A good many think if you feed a hen in the morning and give a little ice water to drink that is all you should do. But the more we work with our hens the better the returns we will get. Every time you go in your house, if it is ten times a day, kick the litter up in a pile and put in a handful of wheat and see what enjoyment the birds will have kicking it around and singing as they do it. This shows joy and happiness. If you keep this up all winter, you will not have any sick and puny birds. When breeding season comes your stock will be full of vigor and the result will be fertile eggs, strong and vigorous chicks, that if properly hatched and brooded will grow up to good healthy stock that will be a pleasure for you to see and the neighbors enjoy.—C. L. Parkhurst.

Get up and dust means to pile it on the hens and nests, the thicker the better, for it helps to even up things around the poultry house.

Fresh Air Poultry Houses

By PLUMMER McCULLOUGH

Possibly there is no other subject that interests the average poultryman more than the subject of poultry houses. Especially is this true of amateurs. The amateur as a rule must start with a small amount of capital and therefore he necessarily must have an inexpensive poultry house. It is not very many years ago that poultrymen had stoves, oil lamps, lanterns, etc., burning in their poultry houses in very cold weather to keep their birds warm. They were trying to make winter conditions and surroundings appear like spring and summer. In a way they succeeded and in a way they failed. They succeeded in keeping the houses warm, part of the time at least, but they failed because they were pursuing an unnatural course, and it is hard to work against Nature. Today we find practically no houses that have artificial heat in them for the comfort of the birds. (This means adult fowls, as I am not speaking of chicks and brooder houses.) Today we find that instead of the artificially heated house we have the open front or fresh-air poultry houses in use on many of the most successful poultry plants of today.

The first I ever saw of the open front houses was on a small plant in Venango County. The owner here had a house about 50 feet long and 12 feet wide. He had two windows with double frames in every 12-foot compartment. Eight large windows in all, I think. These windows had glass in, but for some reason the owner did not like them, so he removed the lower sash in each window entirely, leaving the space open. This was left this way all winter and was closed only in zero weather. In fact, the windows were put in only a very few times during the winter.

The roosts were located at the back of the house and in front of them it was boarded up about 2½ feet. Then the owner had a curtain that he dropped in front of the roosts in very severe weather. This man got eggs, and lots of them, the whole winter, and he seemed well satisfied with his open windows. Several of his male birds were pretty badly frozen, which I did not like, but otherwise his flock seemed in perfect health. About two years ago last December I built two colony houses of the shed roof type. In size they were 10 feet long, 6 feet wide, 6 feet high in front and 4 feet high in the rear. For the first winter I kept about ten pullets and a cockerel in each house. The windows or rather openings for windows were about 2½ by 2½ feet, and were left open the entire winter, excepting on very cold days I had a muslin covered frame to close the openings. These birds did splendid in this house and laid well all winter. Never had a sign of a cold. Last winter the openings were never closed and the stock came through in the spring in good health, with no colds or any sickness whatever. This winter the same houses were open up till nearly February 1. January was a very severe month and we had the coldest weather in years here in Western Pennsylvania. The thermometer dropped anywhere from 20 to 39 degrees below zero and I will confess I would have been better off if I had had the openings closed during this severe weather, as I had a few choice cockerels that were pretty badly nipped with the frost. After this was done I put up muslin curtains for such very cold

weather—something like locking the stable after the horse was stolen. However, I believe that muslin is much better for such a house than glass, as it will keep the air in the house pure at all times.

A neighbor of mine built a Tolman open-front house two years ago. This house, as many of you know, is a double-pitch roof with a long pitch toward the south and a shorter slope to the north. This house is entirely open at the south end, but has a cloth curtain to let down in very severe weather or stormy days. It proved fairly satisfactory, but not altogether. I think he made a mistake by having his house set on posts about 1½ feet from the ground and then had a board floor. The plan of the house called for a dirt or gravel floor and the floor to be filled up to the sills of the house. I would prefer this plan to a board floor up from the ground, as the wind has too much play under the house to suit me. About a year ago this neighbor built another house. This house is of the shed roof type and about 50 feet long by 14 feet deep. He has the whole south front of the house open, excepting where doors are. Muslin frames are provided for severe or stormy weather, but are hooked up at night to the ceiling so as to be out of the way. When he built this house I thought he was leaving entirely too much open front, and I think so yet. Rather think he went to extremes, though his stock laid well this winter until the very cold weather in January. They slacked up then and some of the male birds were badly frozen. I am of the opinion that he also thinks he has too much open front now. In my judgment he could have done better by having two good sized windows in each house and, if these were covered with muslin, he would have had all the fresh air in his house that he wants. He keeps White Wyandottes and if he had had Leghorns or Minorcas during the very cold weather in January, they would have suffered terribly.

In my judgment the cloth window is a very necessary thing for the health of the flock. At least fresh air in some form is necessary and I know of no cheaper way of getting it than by the open or muslin covered windows or fronts. Some object that the muslin will freeze after a rain has been followed by freezing weather; which is true, but it will also thaw out again. R. C. Lawry, of the great Yesterlaid Egg Farm, has the windows wide open on one side of his house where he houses 500 Leghorns in one house. He is careful to have them open on the opposite side from where the wind is blowing, thereby keeping the draft off the birds. Mr. Lawry has little use for the muslin covered window, as he says the dust will settle in it and make it hard for air to pass through. While no doubt true, it would be an easy matter to sweep the dust off them once or so every week with a broom if necessary. Then muslin is cheap and can be torn off every year and new put on for that matter.

I believe the open front house has come to stay, but I also believe that we can go to extremes by having entirely too much open front. Fresh air is necessary for perfect health in both poultry and human beings and if we want strong, healthy stock that will produce strong, healthy chicks we must not deny them fresh air.

A London Clearing House for Eggs

A central depot or clearing house for eggs for Greater London was opened recently by the National Poultry Organization Society, in Hosierlane, West Smithfield, E. C. For about a dozen years the society, with which the Marchioness of Salisbury is prominently connected, and which is a cooperative organization run by farmers in all parts of the country, has collected eggs from various districts and acted as a distributing agency between the farmers and the retailers. In the past the orders for the London area have been dealt with by the provincial depots and the eggs sent direct to the retailers, but with the increase of business this system has proved more and more unworkable, and the establishment of a London clearing house was felt to be essential.

The new depot is fully equipped with the latest appliances for testing and grading the eggs, and a practical demonstration of the process is conclusive evidence of the impossibility of any of suspicious quality being included among those sent to the retailers. The society's supplies are drawn from about eighteen counties, principally from Cornwall, Devonshire, Somersetshire, Dorsetshire, Hampshire, Oxfordshire, Hereford, Norfolk and North and South Wales. The system upon which the society works is, of

course, based upon that which prevails in Denmark, and which has enabled the Danish traders to secure such a predominant position in the egg trade.

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FROM STANDARD BRED WINNERS AT NEW YORK, CHICAGO, BOSTON, ST. LOUIS AND CLEVELAND. EGG RECORD 280. EVERY CHICK GUARANTEED. Barred White and Buff Rocks, Brown, White and Buff Leghorns, Black, White and Buff Orpingtons, White Wyandottes, R. I. Reds, Black Minorcas, Anconas, Baby I. R. Ducks. Safe arrival guaranteed. Price, 8c up.

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WINNING WHITE WYANDOTTES

Our birds are winning consistently at the leading shows including Hagerstown, Philadelphia and Baltimore in competition with the leading breeders of the East and can do the same for you. :

Stock and Eggs For Sale. Satisfaction Guaranteed.

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During the season of 1911-12 my White Rocks won a total of Twelve Firsts, Seven Seconds, One Third, Silver Cup for Best Pen, Special for Best Display in American Class. These winnings together with my former winnings prove that my White Rocks are the winning kind. Have the best matings this year I ever owned.

Eggs, \$2.00 per 15, straight. No further reduction.
From Special Pen, \$5.00 per 15. Mating list free.

PLUMMER McCULLOUGH

Box F

Mercer, Pa.

TIMELY TOPICS

By PLUMMER McCULLOUGH.

In the American Poultry Advocate Rev. Edgar Warren writes: "I suppose it is heresy to say so, but I am not convinced of the indispensability of the dropping boards. Nature does not provide one when the hens roost in trees. If a man has a good made house it would pay him to fence in a space under the roosts and let the droppings fall in this box or pen. They should be sprinkled over with plaster once in awhile, but need not be removed oftener than twice a year. In this way the poultry keeper would save lots of valuable time. The object of this pen or box is to keep them from mixing with the litter and contaminating the feed. When I began, to keep hens I actually used to clean out under the roosts every morning. After a year or two I cleaned out once a week and now I think I am pretty smart if I clean out once a month. I don't see but that the hens do just as well and lay just as many eggs as when I was more particular." The above will seem strange to some of our readers, but Rev. Warren is not the only one that is sick of the dropping boards. Fred Grundy has no use for them, neither is C. F. Townsend using them in his new testing pens. I can not say they are a necessity, but they do give considerable more floor space and make a very nice place to place the nest boxes under. It is true, as Mr. Warren says, that Nature does not provide one when the hens roost in trees unless it is the ground. However, we can hardly compare the hen that roosts in the trees and the hen that is confined in a house. I don't believe that many of the hens that roost in trees lay 200 eggs per year. Egg production has been improved since then. The dropping boards are supposed to be a step in advance of the old way, but are they? We will let some one else answer.

A man wrote me the other day asking me if I would furnish him with a White Rock cockerel that would score 94 points for \$2. He said if I couldn't he knew a breeder that could, and if he did not deal with me he would deal with the other breeder soon. He has no doubt dealt with the other breeder, but I believe he has yet to get a 94-point bird for \$2.

At a small show recently I saw a White Orpington cockerel that scored 94 at this show and was cut 2 points for underweight. If he had been up to weight he would have reached 96 in that judge's eye. I don't believe if that bird had been shown at a large show like Chicago he would have scored 90 points. He was not a good type and had never been washed and was quite dirty. This is one of the drawbacks of the score cards. Judges will score birds away up at a small show to make the small breeders or amateurs feel good and they then enter them in some large show to find out to their sorrow that the stock don't score so high as it did at a small show. This is not right. If the score card is rightly applied a bird of the same quality should score just as much at Pumpkin Center as it does at the largest show in the nation.

Dr. W. R. Fisher has an excellent article in American Poultry Advocate. Dr. Fisher says the same dry mash is not ideal for both hens and pullets and also states that, "It is the difference

in conditions among poultrymen that give rise to the differences in opinion among them in regard to the dry mash in hoppers. One who keeps Leghorns in a favorable locality will praise it, another who raises Plymouth Rocks may have his doubts and the man who raises Brahmas is likely to condemn it." Dr. Fisher endorses the dry mash used by the Maine Experiment Station. The dry mash used by this station for laying pullets is 300 pounds of wheat bran and 100 pounds each of corn meal, middlings and beef scraps for the first month. For the second month 100 pounds of gluten meal is added, and for the third month 50 pounds of linseed meal is added. This method they think is better than to feed the pullets so rich a ration at the start. By bringing them on to the rich ration in a gradual way the mortality is much less. The dry mash used for the breeding stock is a very simple one and is made up of 400 pounds bran, 50 pounds cornmeal, 50 pounds middlings and 100 pounds of beef scraps. This is a dry mash that any of our readers can procure with little effort.

We learn that A. F. Hunter is to be hereafter associate editor of R. P. J. We are glad of this fact, as we enjoy Mr. Hunter's writings and will give the Feather readers some squibs from his pen from time to time.

In a late issue of Poultry a correspondent asks this question: "Last spring I purchased ten Brown Leghorn hens and a cockerel not related to the hens. I now have about 30 hens and pullets. Will I have to get a cockerel of no relation to run with them, or will the one do?" The answer is, We are not afraid to inbreed if we have the right kind of birds in the mating. No great strain of fowls ever has been perfected without inbreeding. A good rule for beginners is to inbreed two years, then outbreed one year. Whether this is the best advice or not I can not say, but let us quote a little from the catalogue of the Cycle Hatcher Co. In speaking of their White Orpingtons they say: "We never inbreed. Few people realize the many advantages of breeding together unrelated birds. Every time they are mated together a decided improvement is had in their young, not only in show qualities, but in egg production, in size, and in extreme hardiness. When the White Orpingtons were first introduced into America there were evidently inherited weaknesses that had been brought on by close inbreeding. The first two years after their introduction it was almost impossible to keep a cock bird over winter after breeding him during the spring and summer season. Not until we had bred them two years were we able to winter one. After the second year we had improved the strength and hardiness and succeeded in keeping the cock birds a year or even longer. Last year we wintered over 100 of them and a larger, stronger, hardier lot can not be found." Our friends can readily see that Mr. Philo's experience does not nick with the advice given to the correspondent by Poultry. Personally we rather think Mr. Philo's is the best way and I do not like too close inbreeding in poultry.

I know the contrary is often proven in certain cases, but why do draught horse breeders not inbreed their stock?

Why do the breeders of beef cattle not inbreed? Because they know better; know it is detrimental.

This would be a good line of work for some experimental work and the experiment stations should take it up.

We believe that the average breeder mates too many females with the male bird for the best possible results. Especially is this true where stock is confined to small yards. As a rule I believe that eight females mated with a good, vigorous cockerel or yearling cock is enough for the heavier breeds. The more active varieties, like the Leghorns, can stand more, as I believe that D. N. Young, the greatest White Leghorn breeder in the world, mates as high as fifteen or more females with one male. Possibly he does not have as great a number in his very best pens, but the Leghorn males are very active and will accommodate more females than a Rock, Wyandotte, Orpington or Red. Two years ago I mated only three small pens of seven females and a male in each pen, and the eggs hatched remarkably well that year. Whether it was because of the small number of females or not, I am not positive, but I am inclined to think that it had very much to do with the eggs hatching so well. Try a small pen this year and see for yourself whether or not there is anything in this.

Poultry Review gives the following advice for oil used in incubators that smoke: "Oil used in incubators that is inclined to smoke can be so treated so as to give little trouble. Half a cupful of fine salt put into each quart of oil and allowed to settle for a day or so is the simple receipt. Allow the oil to remain quiet for the time mentioned and then pour it off into the lamp or other receptacle. Then put a small piece of gum camphor in the lamp, letting it remain there. Treated as above you will be well pleased with results."

F. N. Perkins has an excellent article in Western Poultry Journal on the breeding of Partridge Plymouth Rocks. Mr. Perkins is an advocate of single mating and is also down on the Single-Combed Wyandotte sports. He writes: "I desire to state here most emphatically that the strain of Partridge Rocks with which I am familiar is not or never has been of the Single-Comb sports of the Partridge Wyandottes, and that he who undertakes the infusion of that blood line into his strain will have more trouble to overcome than he anticipates." We are sorry that all strains of Partridge Rocks are not as free from Single-Comb Partridge Wyandotte sports as Mr. Perkins'. We have known birds exhibited in the Partridge Rock class that were nothing more than Single-Combed Partridge Wyandottes of pure Wyandotte blood. This should not be and I am glad to see such a leading breeder as Mr. Perkins denounce such practice.

In the R. P. J. we read that Prof. Jas. Dryden has been securing some remarkable egg records. One Plymouth Rock hen in one year ending November 12 laid 259 eggs, and was still laying heavily when the year ended. A cross-bred hen laid 257 eggs in 12 months. A Leghorn made an excellent record, but fell several eggs short of the first two. This is remarkable laying and speaks well for the Oregon Experiment Station work with which Prof. Dryden is connected.

The National Stockman and Farmer publishes an article by "Jay" in a recent issue in which "Jay" says, con-

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in the April number
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Once Grown Always Grown

Maule's Seeds

Poultrymen in all sections
pronounce them the best ever

My new Seed Catalogue is a wonder. Contains everything in seeds, bulbs, small fruits and plants worth growing. 600 illustrations; 176 pages. Any poultryman sending his name on a postal card can have it for the asking. Send for it today. Address

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Send 5 cents (stamps) mention this paper, I will enclose in the catalogue a packet of the above GLANT pansy.



Make Your Hens "Lay and Pay"

This is the slogan of the Poultry business, and if your hens do not lay they do not pay. Eggs mean dollars in these times of high prices and the more eggs you get the more dollars you will have.

It is Easy to Get Eggs

If you follow the rules of those who have made a success of the business. There is no reason why a hen should not lay in winter, if she is provided with the elements which make the egg. When these are provided she will produce the eggs.

The Successful Egg-a-Day Condition Powder

Contains these elements, when combined with the food, to make the laziest hen lay her share of eggs. It is a great Laying Tonic and conditioner of hens. Those who have tried it would not be without it—and now is your time to prove it. See the testimonials on back cover page of this number of The Feather. Send for our new free booklet, "Calendar of Poultry Keeping, 1912." Agents wanted. Regular size box, 1½ lbs., 25 cents; by mail, 45 cents. Five boxes, by express or freight, \$1.00. Sample size, ½ lb., 10 cents; by mail, 15 cents.

The Successful Poultry Remedy Company

WASHINGTON, D. C.

densed: "I wonder why farmers can't see that their Plymouth Rock flocks are losing them money every year they keep them? I don't think the farmer is going to get anywhere in particular until he has enough chickens or eggs for sale to have his self-respect with him when he goes to sell them. And it's my guess that that will never be until he quits keeping Plymouth Rocks and ties up with a breed that will either lay eggs or get off the nest.

"The same thing applies to any general purpose fowl in existence, but the application to the Barred Plymouth Rock is twice as thick. Most of the trouble with farmers that do not get winter eggs is in the choice of breeds. If the pullets are hatched early enough in the spring there will be no trouble about winter eggs. But that is just what the farmers can't do with the Rocks. If the Rock pullet is to be laying by November 1 it must be hatched by April 1. They could raise 200 Leghorns with half the equipment, labor and spoiled eggs that it takes to raise any general-purpose breed in existence."

Just who "Jay" is and why he does not sign his full name to his article I can not say. I can say, however, that he has written some things in his article that he would have a hard time to prove. How does "Jay" know that farmers are losing money by keeping Plymouth Rocks? Has he the figures and facts to prove his statements? If so, please give them. We admit that many farmers are losing money by keeping Plymouth Rocks, but it is not the fault of the Plymouth Rocks. I also know that many farmers are losing money by keeping Leghorns and I will be reasonable enough to say it is not the fault of the Leghorns. Neither do I think "Jay" is correct when he says that it is in the choice of breeds that keeps the farmer from getting winter eggs. More often it is because the farmer does not have comfortable poultry houses and does not give his hens enough egg-making food or food of the proper kind. I wonder if "Jay" has hens that laid 259 eggs in the last 12 months? A Plymouth Rock did it at the Oregon Experiment Station. I wonder if "Jay" has a better laying strain of Leghorns than Mr. J. W. Parks bred to lay Barred Rocks? If he has I have failed to hear of them. When "Jay" says that Plymouth Rock pullets must be hatched April 1 to begin laying November 1 he shows that he has some things yet to learn about the Rocks. The writer has had Plymouth Rock pullets lay when only a little over five months old, and they could have been gotten to lay much sooner if they had been forced for early laying, but this was not the point I was most working for. I think "Jay" has yet some things to learn and I am sure if Plymouth Rocks were as bad as he makes them out they would not be so popular as they are today.

Thos. F. Rigg, in R. P. J., writes: "The Campine boom is sweeping over the Western prairies, carrying all before it. The White Orpington boom had hardly subsided before it was carried away by this latest disturbance. Staid old fanciers, who have had with them for years their Rocks, Wyandottes and Brahmas, are discarding them and taking up the sprightly and pretty fowl of Belgium."

The Campines are marked very much like the Pencilled Hamburgs, but have single combs. Quite a number of noted breeders of the East are taking them up also.

Now that the show season is over, let us get busy with spring work. Eggs for hatching will be in demand, and if you expect to have more eggs from

your best pens than you expect to use for yourself, you had better try a classified ad. in The Feather. The cost is small and you can find no better way to get your name before the poultry public. Just try.

It is surprising how good a bird some people expect for a couple of dollars. A good, big, healthy, purebred bird that is free from disqualifications is worth \$2 or more, and he don't need to be a very high-class bird to bring more than this. A male bird of the American class will bring \$1 on the market. Surely breeding back of a bird is of some value. Then don't expect too much for the money. You can not buy a high-class bird for a little over market value. Don't try it.

In our February Timely Topics we said that if you are a breeder and wish to know how to make the express people settle for damages you should write to President Townsend, of the N. P. A., at Weedsport, N. Y., who will be glad to tell you, "charging for the information." This was a blunder of the compositor and not my mistake, for we wrote, "charging NOTHING for the information." It will also be noticed that we had copied a part of Robinson's editorial in Farm Poultry, with comments on same.

In explanation, of this we wish to say that this was written before I found out the truth about the N. P. A. I wrote The Feather and tried to have them not publish it, but I guess it was too late. At any rate, it was published much against my wishes after Mr. Townsend told me the right way of the matter. Mr. Townsend says the N. P. A. is not a money-making affair, and further states that when anyone says that he is using the association for personal gain they tell a monstrous falsehood. Mr. Townsend goes on and states, "I am not a breeder. I have nothing to sell, except as you know, I dispose of the few surplus eggs and chicks not needed in our tests. And of these I believe I give away more than I sell. Somebody says I wrote a 'system' book. That is not true. I wrote a book on Poultry Secrets and every member of the association has received a free copy. I am writing a book on Show Room Secrets and every member of the association will also receive a free copy of this book, the same as they receive free copies of our bulletins, year books, etc."

"The association does not hold meetings because there is no need of it. The entire management is in the hands

of the Advisory Board and all matters are submitted to the members thereof by the secretary, for their approval."

We are glad to be able to give our readers this information regarding the N. P. A. and am sorry we did not know more before. We don't want to publish anything but what is true and right and if the N. P. A. is doing a good work it should have the best wishes of every breeder and exhibitor.

John H. Robinson will have to come out in the limelight yet about the circulation of Farm Poultry. Curtis is bound to have the truth about the matter and we are patiently waiting for Robinson's answer.

Chicken Chatter

The cold storage egg never is a fresh egg.

The cold, dreary winter is nearly gone.

The freshest eggs always hatch the best.

It pays to worry along with your hens.

If you have a system in caring for your poultry you will win.

Charcoal is a splendid thing to have within handy reach of your birds.

Gather the eggs intended for hatching twice each day, and handle them carefully.

Clean, fresh water in clean, fresh looking vessels is a daily necessity in the poultry yard.

After months of hard weather, the chirp of the spring chick will soon be heard chirping its little tune of joy.

The lice will soon be coming in all their strength and the battle with them must be hard fought if you expect to win.

If you buy any new breeders this season, keep them penned separately until you are sure they are free from disease. Oftentimes the mistake is made by putting the newcomers in with your birds.

NO HENS

should be kept in your flock. It is worse than money wasted it is inhumane. Infected chickens can only lose you money. Why not keep your hen house clean, sanitary? Make it conducive to health, vigor, egg production. Avenarius Carbolineum will do it. Easily applied, permanent, cheap. Write today for free Bulletin on "How To Keep Vermin Away."

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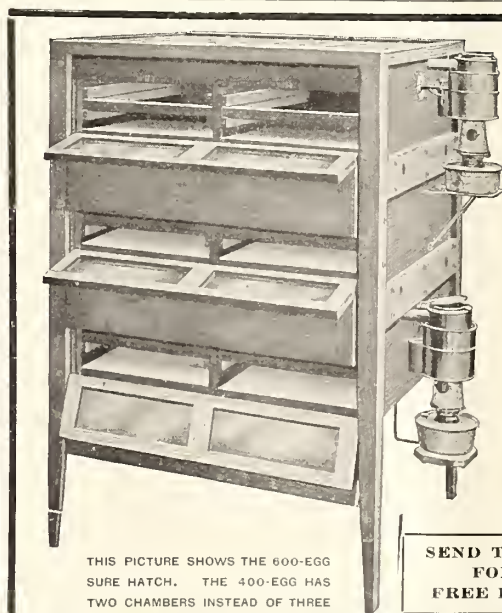
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"HEN-E-TA"
NO OTHER bone or grit needed now—nor bone cutters—nor beef scraps—nor charcoal—nor oyster shells if you feed "HEN-E-TA."
Makes Hens Lay
"HEN-E-TA"—the phosphorus food gets the most eggs with least trouble. 15 about
30% Pure Bone Ash
Odorless—100 lbs. only \$2.25 or 500 lbs. only \$9. We will see that you are supplied if your dealer won't. Write
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NEWARK, N.J. DEPT. 24 FLEMINGTON, W.VA.

Kill the vermin in your poultry house by the use of this bucket spray pump. White wash your buildings and fences, spray your small trees, bushes, and vegetables, wash your porches, windows and vehicles with it. 100 lbs. steady pressure; bronze ball valves; candle wick packing.
IRON AGE Quality throughout
Solution comes in contact with brass parts only. Easier to repack than any similar outfit made. With or without bucket. Ask your dealer to show it. Also write for special booklets. Complete line.
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Box 300B Grenloch, N. J.



THIS PICTURE SHOWS THE 600-EGG SURE HATCH. THE 400-EGG HAS TWO CHAMBERS INSTEAD OF THREE

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The Sure Hatch Incubator Company is now building its famous machines in 400 and 600-egg sizes. This is done in response to a continued demand for larger machines. These new sizes have been thoroughly tested and rank right up with the other sizes of the Sure Hatch.

Their method of construction makes them far superior to any other make of equal capacity. Look at the picture of the 600-egg machine on this page and note the economy of floor space; how they are built in sections, one above the other; each is heated with its own lamp and can be run separately from the others; can set 200, 400 or 600 eggs at a time—as you may happen to be fixed for eggs; no waste of heating any more space than necessary to take the number of eggs you want to set. Any of the chambers can be set any time without interfering with either of the others. Can be easily taken apart and re-assembled in a few minutes.

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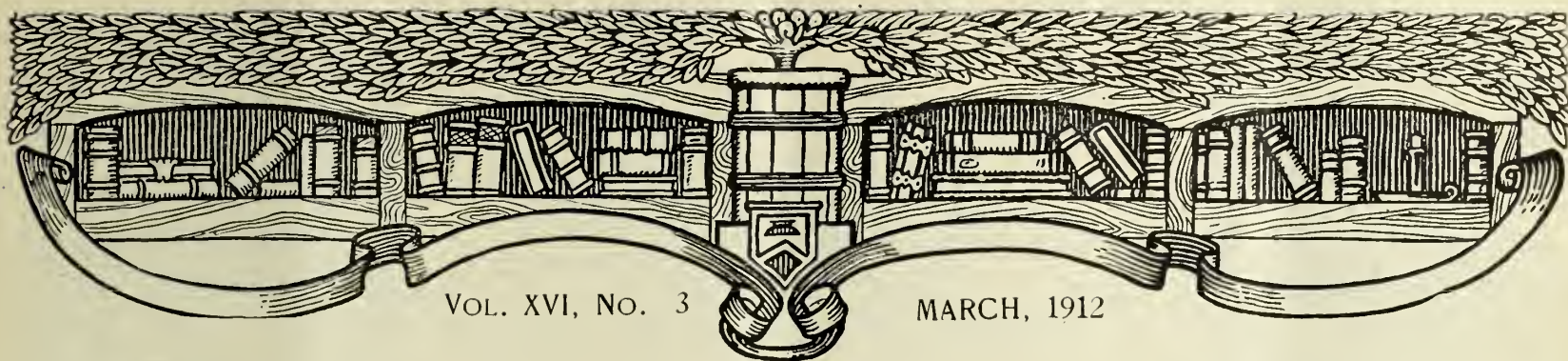
Running from 50 to 600-egg, enables us to fit out a beginner, or a city lot dweller, who may want only a few chicks, to the extensive breeder who hatches thousands of them. They are all built on the plans laid down by the U. S. Government and described in Bulletin No. 236. Send for our Catalogue and the Bulletin. Both sent free.

Send right away for Catalogue and Bulletin. Address,

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FREMONT, NEBRASKA



Editorial Comment

The spring chick is now the center of thought and the more it is thought of the better it will be for the chick. The successes and the failures of the poultryman are in the chick, and the more this fact is appreciated the greater will be the results. The appearance of the chick means work—plenty of it, too—and you must throw all your energies into this work to make it worth while. From the time the chick leaves the shell until it has matured, you must keep it on the jump in good, healthy growth. The development must be natural and proper to get the best of results. The care given to the chick will be well repaid afterwards, and the greater the care the greater will be your reward.

* * *

The first step is to see that the chicks are free from lice, for a chick affected with lice can not grow and prosper. Keep after the pests until you know there is not a louse to be found. Their coops should be dry, warm and clean, substantially built and easily cared for. The floor of coop should be covered with dry sand and litter and free from dampness. Allow the little fellows ample room and avoid crowding. The feeding of the chick is an essential part of the controversy, and the more careful you are with the feed, the kind and the time, the better off the chicks will be. You have your ideas as to the feed, but be careful not to have it wet and sloppy; the dryer the feed the better. These simple things are easily done if you will take the time to do them. Start the chick right and keep at it until you have the finished fowl. It pays in the end.

* * *

Most people's jealousy of another's success has a large streak of envy mixed with it.

* * *

"Dearie," said Mrs. Campine, "do you think our new overseer is any improvement over the last one?"

"Hardly," answered her mate. "His ability for seeing over things is fast reducing us to actual starvation."

* * *

We are gratified to know that Mr. A. F. Hunter has taken up an active task with the Reliable Poultry Journal. Mr. Hunter is one of those who knows whereof he writes, and, at the same time, gives a satisfying pleasure that is not so easily found. We have always appreciated his work.

* * *

The gossip says that Miss Hamburg, while attending the last show, carried on a reckless flirtation with a Polish gentleman.

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If you have a friend who is not a subscriber to

THE FEATHER

ASK HIM TO SEND IN HIS SUBSCRIPTION SO AS TO GET THE APRIL NUMBER. WE HOPE TO MAKE IT A MOST VALUABLE NUMBER, AND FOR THAT REASON WE DON'T WANT YOUR FRIEND TO MISS IT.

See Some of the Liberal Offers We Are Making to Subscribers.

The poultry industry loses a great friend and advocate in the death of Mr. David A. Nichols, Shelton, Conn., who died at his home on February 4, 1912. We have long and favorably known Mr. Nichols and have been pleased to count him among our friends. He has had a most active and honorable career, and has done much for the promotion and welfare of the poultry industry. Mr. Nichols has been president of the American Poultry Association, besides serving for five years as a member

of the executive board of that association, and at the time of his death was treasurer of same. The Feather extends its heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Nichols and family in their sad bereavement.

* * *

A man's every inch a man when he conducts himself as such.

* * *

If the cock crows and the hens lay what more has a poultryman to wish for?

* * *

A hen, like any other old thing that can and won't, should be made to get busy.

* * *

If a fellow bats out a single no, come back at him with a double yes.

* * *

The Department of Agriculture, through a circular letter, says that the United States Consul General at Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, states that there is a good demand throughout western Canada for Standard-bred poultry, especially of the American breeds. This is cheering news. Our modern, up-to-date breeders of "fancy" poultry, should get busy and extend their business along these lines. The consul suggests the following points: Winnipeg, Brandon, Neepawa, Portage la Prairie, Manitoba; Regina, Moose Jaw and Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and Edmonton, Alberta.

* * *

A hen is better off by herself than she would be in the hands of the fellow who thinks he knows more than she does.

* * *

The "Springer" has been sprung before real spring has reached us.

* * *

If an egg is an egg there is no further use for argument.

* * *

One of the features of the poultrymen's harvest is the hens shelling out the eggs.

* * *

We are pleased to see that Frank B. White is again at it with his "Good Advertising." Mr. White has had a most valuable experience in this line of work, and some of the choicest morsels in poultry advertising have come from his pen. We extend our heartiest congratulations to him and wish him the greatest of success for the future.

* * *

Why worry along with the same old sores of discontent?

* * *

When you shake hands with yourself it is a good sign that you need a doctor.



Can Utility and Fancy Be Combined?

By MICHAEL K. BOYER



IT is possible to combine utility and the beautiful to a certain extent. I greatly respect the fanciers. I believe it is due them to say that they have not only made our breeds, but they have maintained them. It is up to the poultry farmers to make the most out of that work.

This is done by first breeding for eggs or carcasses, and, having obtained that ideal, each year select from both old and young those birds which answer best to standard requirements. In a few years, by this method, one will be enabled to have birds valuable in production and very satisfactory in characteristics.

At one time there was the belief that utility men were the champions of the common, dunghill fowl. No greater injustice could have been done. On the other hand, they are opposed to anything but a pure-bred fowl. They have learned that for uniformity in both carcass and size and color of egg the common fowl is capable to supply. That by using the breed in its purity, the poulterer is able to secure both meat and eggs that are of the highest order and command the best prices.

I do not like that term "Standard bred;" and neither have I any use for the word "Fancy." According to law, that word or term "Standard bred" means too much for the show room and not enough for the egg basket. It means pick out your specimens in conformity of markings regardless of the number of eggs laid. Is it a wonder, with such a method, that the high egg scores are not found in the fancier's yards?

There is entirely too much sacrificed to the fancy.

While I admit that the only way to secure heavy-laying stock is to each year mate our best layers, at the same time it does not always hold good. I have had very poor layers spring from a family of record-breakers. Nevertheless, the percentage of young were of the heavy-laying type.

Before me lies a clipping written by one John Shrine (unknown to the writer) which hits the nail on the head. It says:

"What account is a 96-point hen if she is a poor layer? Is it not a fact that we often find in our flock a hen scoring but 85 points laying more eggs than the hen that scored 96 at the last show? Which is the profitable hen from a financial standpoint? Many will say: 'The best layer.' Others may say: 'Oh, you can sell the eggs from the 96-point hen for hatching at a greatly advanced price over the 85-point hen.' Now, is it not possible that both of those hens



White Plymouth Rocks

were hatched from the same hen and from the same mating cock?"

That "like begets like" is not true in all things and especially in poultry. It is not always true in any domestic stock; it is not altogether true in the human family, and it is not any more true with poultry.

If it were true then to mate a 96-point cock and 96-point hen would have the assurance that the progeny would all be 96-point birds!

Then the aforesaid writer illustrates, and he does it well: "Must we throw out the 200 or 250-egg hen because it is her misfortune to have black feathers in wings, or too much white in ear lobes? The American Standard of Perfection says 'yes.'"

We read of the big returns from poultry and eggs; how the industry is outclassing all the mines, staples, crops, etc., in this country—but where does that poultry contribution come from? It comes from the money paid for table eggs and poultry and not from the high prices charged by fanciers for specimens "way up in the Standard." In making an estimate of the value of the products of the hen, it is made from statistics, and the fancy part is never taken into consideration.

This same writer says: "As I am somewhat given to fancy, when I was looking for something behind the beauty, I was looking for a woman worth something more than the license and parson's fees. So, in poultry, I want fancy, but something more. I want a hen that will produce eggs, and lots of them."

Here is some more testimony:

I. K. Flech once said, and I have quoted this testimony time and again in my writings—but like all good things, it will bear repeating:

"The practical qualities are the foundation of the poultry industry. Rob a breed of utility, and breeder after breeder will desert it in disgust, until very few will be found who will keep the breed."

If Standard-bred means strict breeding to the written law as we find it in the Standard—for which we must not only inbreed, but also select females for our pens regardless of their utility qualifications—are we growing useful birds, birds to be recommended to the farmer? Will not inbreeding weaken the constitutions of the offspring? Will not each generation become weaker in egg production by this haphazard way of mating? Why Standard-bred when it means a risk to run? Why not thoroughbred or pure-bred, pure and simple?

Too much attention is paid to fine feathers and not enough to plump carcasses and egg records.

If we want to have practical poultry we must see that every condition is provided for. If the Standard calls for something that can be had without making inroads on the egg and meat problem, it is the poulterer's duty to abide by it. But if the Standard's demands cripple utility, then, by all means, ignore it.

This is a practical country, writes Judge G. O. Brown, and breeding fowls for mere fancy or beauty alone will never become popular. Beauty and utility should be twins in poultry culture.

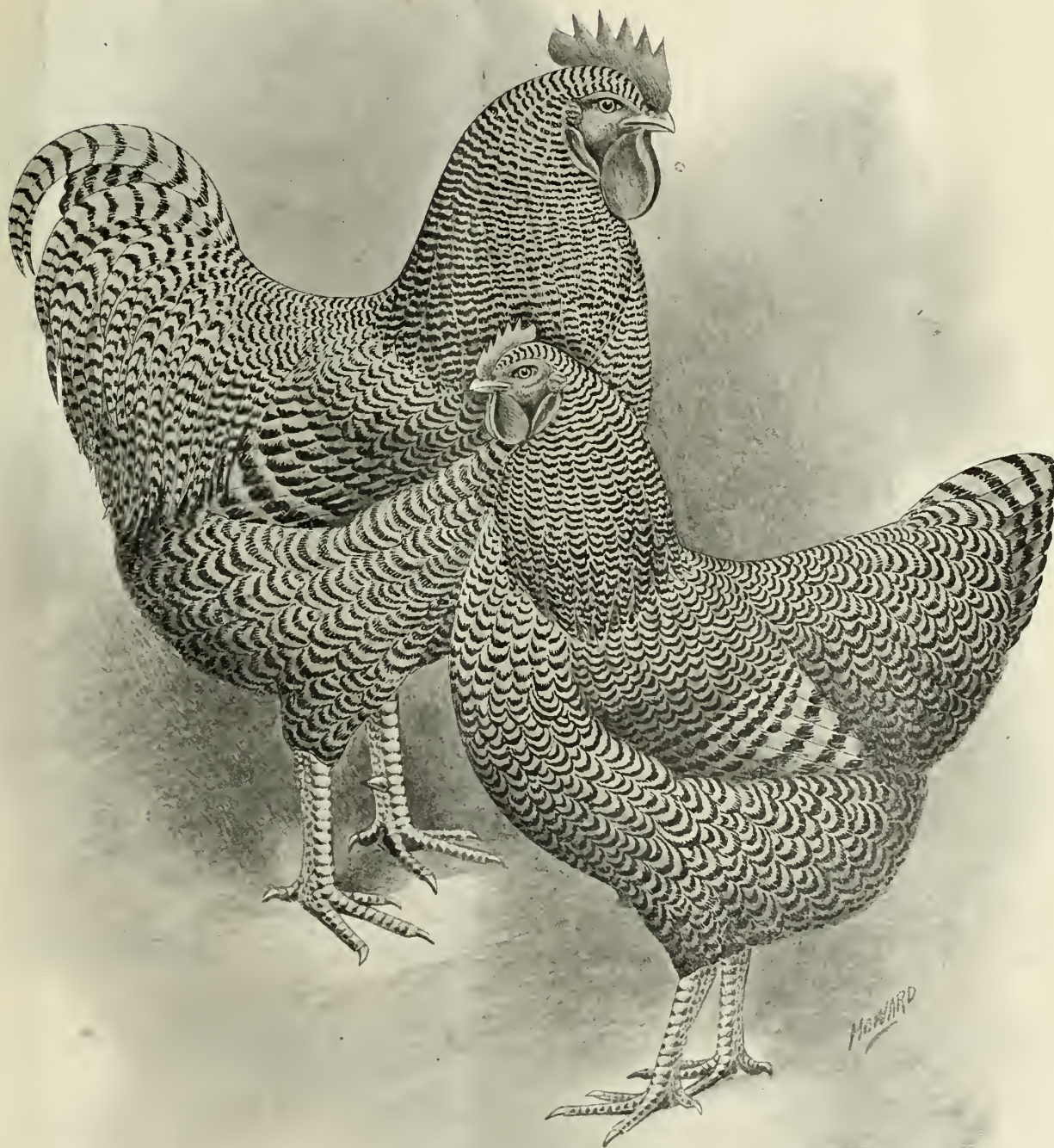
The points that constitute the general make-up of a pure-bred fowl should only be looked after sufficiently to insure purity. The effort to develop in an extravagant degree any particular feature or point will invariably be carried out at the expense of utility.

E. O. Roesselle says he does not agree with many breeders that fine birds, bred with the desire for show specimens, should be the first step. To start with thoroughbred stock he believes in fully. The strongest and healthiest specimens one can obtain are none too good for the market branch. It will pay better to improve the flocks with this end in view than to devote so much to form and feathers.

It is a mistake to think that pure-bred poultry and "Standard-bred stock" are one and all the same. A Standard-bred fowl is a pure-bred fowl, but a disqualified thoroughbred is not a Standard-bred bird.

The stand the writer takes is:

Give us pure-breds—strictly pure-breds—and get as near the Standard requirements as possible, making utility the foundation, and build on that



A Pair of Barred Plymouth Rocks

rock gradually and firmly. No other source of breeding will bring about the desired results.

Breeding for beauty is all right in its place, but where beauty interferes with utility, beauty should take second place.

We want less fanciers and more poultry breeders. The utility man need not confine his scope entirely to raising table eggs and meat. It is perfectly legitimate for him to offer for sale eggs for hatching and breeding stock from those utility fowls. He who can produce large egg records, or good market breeders, will very often be lacking in high scores in his flocks, but they will have a more worthy record than any poultry judge can give.

The utility breeder selects his stock from among his best workers, and mates accordingly.

The failure mates according to the highest type of perfection, from an outside or ornamental view, regardless of utility qualities. It is plain that the one gradually increases the usefulness of his flocks while the other lessens their value for meat and eggs.

As I said before, the first aim should be the utility qualities, and then breed as near the Standard requirements as possible without affecting the former. It is surprising how near, by that method, we can come to the wishes of the Standard makers.

It is easier to do that than to try to breed

utility qualities into the exhibition fowl. It would be just as hard to make a kitchen maid out of a parlor lady.

Fanciers quite frequently class the utility fowl with the dunghill. There could be no greater mistake made. The dunghill is the poorest kind of a utility fowl, and practical poultrymen never give them a foot of room on their farms.

W. B. German some years ago gave this definition of the word "Utility:" Usefulness, worth, profit. The word "utilize" means to make useful or profitable. According to the above definition, then, the utility breeds, or those that can be uti-

lized, are those that have been so bred that they can be turned into profit.

"This," said Mr. German, "we do not always find in birds or flocks that are producing fine exhibition specimens, and that are bred for that purpose. The Standard is responsible for at least a part of the mischief."

Then, Mr. German, by way of example, took up the White Plymouth Rocks. The Standard calls for a yellow beak, yellow legs and white plumage. This, at first glance, may seem all right, but is it? Do these qualities go hand in hand, or do they have a tendency to work against each other? Mr. German said that in his experience with White Plymouth Rocks, pure white specimens can not be produced year after year without the yellow skin, beak and legs suffering, as will also the vitality of the flock, the young stock being weak and not growing as fast as they should, while the legs and beaks of birds a year or more old will become pale, and, in some instances, almost white.

The first thing any business man does is to take into consideration the wants of his prospective customers, and he will watch their interests, as from this must come success, and success or failure depends entirely upon how they succeed in pleasing the class of people who deal with them. It is the same with the poultryman. He must study the wants and the wishes of the buyers, and must strive to furnish what they want, or failure will be the result.

For instance, a certain breed has been very popular in this section for a few years on account of being represented as the fowl for farmers. This breed has been bred almost to death for color at the expense of size and vitality. What is the result? Already they are being discarded, and if the true lovers of this breed are not careful, it will get a setback that they will not easily overcome.

Utility is coming to the front, and the wise breeder will take notice of the fact and breed accordingly, and it will not be many years until



A Pair of Light Brahmas

show qualities will be compelled to conform to utility, and not utility to show qualities.

Rev. Edgar L. Warren, in his book entitled "200 Eggs a Year; How to Get Them," says the danger with every breed is that it will get into the hands of the fanciers and be bred for points rather than utility. Stamina is the important thing, and not the show card. It will be a great day for the poultry business when farmers keep more pure-bred fowls, for then the great Standard varieties

may be kept up without danger of deterioration.

It is gratifying to note that gradually the fanciers are recognizing the fact that if they want to be up to date and command trade, they must pay more attention to the utility qualifications of their stock.

We are in an era when the question is not what they will score, but how well they lay. The buying public are looking for practical poultry.

The Rise of the Rhode Island Red

By T. UTTLEY

THE Rhode Island Red, with its brilliant plumage, alert carriage, oblong body, set upon a pair of strong, active legs, is forging ahead. The males are remarkably vigorous, and the females ever busy filling the egg basket with their dark brown eggs (some strains lay deeper-colored eggs than others).

The chickens are hardy, grow rapidly, thanks to the "out-cross" origin of the breed, which looms up in striking contrast to the "in-bred" varieties. Rhode Island Red chickens can be easily raised in the coldest of weathers; they have inherited the vigorous, hardy physique of their progenitors who have gone through a course of selection, a case of the "survival of the fittest."

AMERICANS AND THE REDS.

The Rhode Island farmers recognized the hardness of the "Red" bird, and this unanimity of opinion resulted in them introducing various breeds of "Red" males year after year; the result of this "out-crossing" produced a hardy, vigorous, prolific race of fowls, with a preponderance to redness in plumage. The Americans were struck even then with the beauty of the birds; the standard was drawn up, and today we have a breed second to none for beauty and usefulness, yet a breed,

from an exhibition point of view, practically in its infancy. I have seen the Rhode Island Red on its native shore, and remember the Americans have produced the majority of our popular breeds, and had it not been for the ingenuity and cleverness of the late Wm. Cook, we, as Englishmen, should have been hopelessly in the background as makers of breeds.

I repeat I have seen the Rhode Island Red in the land of the Star-Spangled Banner, a land that has given us many a useful idea; every American I met spoke in praise of the "Reds." They recognize the true worth of the Wyandotte, the sterling qualities of the Rock, but the majority of Americans believe they have gone "one better" and that the Rhode Island Red is "The last word in poultry." The display of "Reds" at the great winter show held last year at Guelph, Ontario, Canada, was an eye-opener.

THE CRITICS.

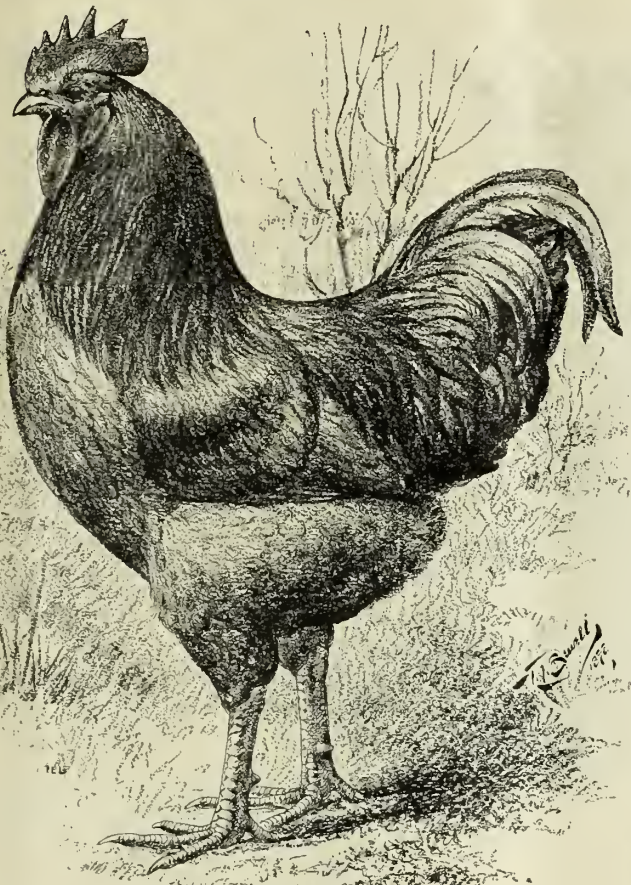
I am certain could some of our English friends who have cast slurs at this beautiful breed only had five minutes among the "Reds" they would have gone home, looked through the columns of The Poultry World, and purchased a pen of "Reds" at once.

We have fanciers saying they do not breed true

to color, etc. Patience, my friends. I see no scientific reason as regards the combination of colors found in their makeup to defeat this object; in fact, I could point out several breeds of poultry that if you made the slightest mistake in mating your breeding pens, even supposing you possessed good specimens, would throw you out of the running as regards the show arena for a year or two afterwards. Certain black breeds will always be difficult to breed. The Rhode Island Red will be a much easier breed to manage than a Buff variety. Mate up your pens year after year with your best birds. Certain breeders seem to pay little regard to smut in under-color. Well, the truth is, we have not got quite far enough advanced with the exhibition points of the breed to lay our hands on perfect specimens.

SMUT IN THE PULLETS.

In the pullets a little smut may be overlooked, but I like a pure-colored cockerel. I am using a medium-sized cock, quite pure in under-color, of course sound on top; now I discarded a much larger bird simply on account of smut and white in under-color. I would never dream of using a cockerel for breeding with any white on surface or under-color. "Like may produce like," but if we go on this principle, we must have pedigree



Rhode Island Red Male

on our side, or we may have some of the old ancestors paying us a return visit. Now, while I am a strong advocate of retaining the utility points of the breed, I am too experienced in the requirements of the everyday poultryman to ever believe the breed will make any headway unless it goes through the refining process, and is bred right up to standard.

I like a bright-colored male, not a deep mahogany. His breast is about as important as any-

thing for pullet-breeding especially. If you choose pullets to match the male's breast you will be on the right line. Now, if you can beg, borrow or buy some pullets a beautiful fairly deep, yet brilliant shade of red with the correct black markings on tail and wings, then mate these with a cock sound in color, with his breast harmonizing with their color, with a rich black tail, good yellow legs, with just a touch of red down legs, providing the birds are oblong in shape, and sound

in under-color, you stand a good chance of making a name in "Reds" when the shows commence next year.

REMEDY THE WEAK POINTS.

Like all other breeds, weak points must be met by strong points. Any paleness of eye must be remedied by mating with a good, red-eyed bird; white-eyed or "fish-eyed" birds should be discarded. There is no doubt that some of our most brilliant surface-colored birds are "smutty" in under-color. Like all breeds, you can not throw Palace winners out "like peas from a pod," but a good bird, correctly mated, will assert its worth in the breeding pen.

I do not recommend breeding from small specimens, a medium-sized bird is quite in order; but I can see we can do with a little more size in our winners, a trifle more bone. If fanciers will only persevere with this breed for a few years I feel assured they will give a good account of themselves and take their place in the front line of popular poultry. The novice looking for a breed should go in for the Rhode Island Red as he stands a chance of coming right to the front, as the best birds are as yet not in the hands of a few breeders only.

ALWAYS DOCILE AND CONTENTED.

I have found them a docile, contented breed, and although they are naturally great foragers, they do well in a backyard; at present they are what might be termed a medium-sized breed, but I suppose in a year or two we shall see some giants among the cockerels; while not wishing to see any abnormal-sized birds produced, I am in favor of a fair-sized bird, as, of course, we must not forget the "Reds" are an "all-around" general purpose variety, and we require a good-sized bird to meet this requirement. As utility fowls pure and simple they are in the front rank. They form the ideal farmer's fowl. That is why, on weighing up this breed, I pinned my faith to them, and it is my opinion that the "Reds" without any "booming" will be in the "Spot light" of the poultry arena from now onwards.—The Poultry World (London).

Great International Egg-Laying Contest

By A. M. POLLARD

ON the 4th of July we naturally expect to hear quite a volume of noise around us, as "Young America" blows herself, but that noise is only a whisper in comparison to what one hears as he walks down "International Ave." or "Stoneburn Road" at the Egg Contest, as these driveways between the long rows of houses are called.

When 500 hens start singing all at once they certainly have Farrar, Melba or Tetrassini beaten by a mile, and that is just what these hens are doing—singing and laying, with the thermometer ranging around zero, which only goes to show what hens will do when properly housed, fed and cared for.

The largest and heaviest egg laid so far was laid by a Single Comb White Orpington, owned by J. F. Pratt, of Southington, Conn. This egg weighed just one-quarter of a pound.

The eggs produced at the contest are packed in cartons and shipped to Finley, Acker & Co., Philadelphia, Pa., where they are sold by contract for



At the "International Egg-Laying Contest." Pen of Columbian Plymouth Rocks owned by F. G. Bean, Collegeville, Pa.

45 cents a dozen for the whole year. The eggs are produced under perfect sanitary conditions and are sterile. Every egg laid is weighed and its weight recorded.

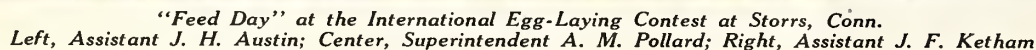
Storrs Experiment Station, Storrs, Conn., will issue a bulletin at the end of the contest, showing all the results, which, no doubt, will be of great interest to poultry raisers throughout the land.

It has always been said that a hen will lay but one egg a day. This statement has been proven to be incorrect by a Rhode Island Red hen, owned by E. L. Edgerton, of West Willington, Conn. This hen laid two eggs in one day. The first egg was collected by Assistant J. H. Austin at 8:30 a. m. and the second by him at 1:30 p. m. To prove this, the other four hens in the pen all laid which gave a total of six eggs from five birds. Also, this hen laid an egg the day before.

Each bird has a leg-band and is trap-nested. This trap-nest was designed by Prof. F. H. Stoneburn.

At the present time all the pens in the contest are laying one or more eggs daily, which brings the egg-yield up to about 250 eggs per day from 490 birds. At the end of the tenth week 87 pens were laying.

F. G. Yost's pen of S. C. W. Leghorns and



The twelfth week a pen of S. C. Reds, owned

The main reason for conducting an egg-laying contest like this one is to show the beginner, as well as the commercial poultryman, the breed that pays the best.

FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1912

NOTE.—This Chart will be published each Month in The Feather during the year. Keep a correct record of your birds each month.

Profitable Goose Raising

By GEO. F. WILLIAMSON

I am writing this article for the benefit of those who think there is no money in goose culture. I want it distinctly understood from the beginning that I am not writing this article to boom goose culture or to sell my stock, for I am not raising geese any more, because I have not the room they require. If I did have the land I certainly would raise them, for they are profitable.

I have found geese much more profitable than any other stock. If a breeder of cattle, hogs, sheep or horses realized a profit of 100 per cent he would think he was getting to be a rich man very quick. One hundred per cent can be made from geese very easily, in fact more.

To raise geese successfully one must have plenty of pasture for them to forage on. If a person has a nice

I have had best results from feeding stale bread soaked in water, then squeezed as dry as possible with the hand and fed three to five times a day for the first few days, then fed a mash made of corn-meal and mixed with water to a crumbly state. Feed this three times a day until they are two weeks old and by that time, if given free range, they will be able to get all the grass they will require and will not need any other feed. They do much better on pasture than they do when confined. Always give plenty of fresh water for drinking purposes, but none for swimming until they are six weeks old. They do better without water for bathing than they do with it. Keep a heap of clean sand in the yard where they can have free access to it at all times; they need it to aid digestion the same as a hen does grit.



A Flock of Toulouse Geese

meadow that he is not using for other stock he can use it to a great advantage and profit by using it for goose culture.

For best results secure a gander at least one year old and mate to him two geese that are one year old or older. A goose is good as a breeder until she is ten or twelve years old, but never use a gander that is over three years old. The gander should weigh 14 to 20 pounds, and the geese should weigh 12 to 16 pounds each, although Toulouse geese often reach the enormous weight of 40 to 45 pounds to the pair.

A goose generally begins laying the last of February or early in March, and will lay ten or a dozen eggs and then she will want to sit; but if broken up at once will lay a second and third lot of eggs. I never sit a goose for they will not make good mothers and they are more profitable to lay eggs. For best results I sit from five to seven eggs under an ordinary hen. The eggs will hatch in about thirty days. I always dip my eggs in warm water of 103 degrees for a few seconds on the twenty-fifth day and then sprinkle daily until they hatch. The goslings should be left in the nest until they are twenty-four or thirty-six hours old, and then they should be removed with the mother hen to a large coop on a nice, green sod. They should be confined in a small runway for the first few days until they get used to their new home and then they will be able to shift for themselves.

When they are given free range be sure that they can not get into the yards where hogs are raised, or ponds where there are snapping turtles. Hogs and turtles will eat goslings faster than you can hatch them with one hundred hens or a dozen incubators.

A great many farmers declare that geese are a nuisance. They are a nuisance and so is any other stock if not kept in its proper place. Old geese should not be allowed to run with other poultry or stock, but should be provided with a large yard and a dry house for their own use. Old geese for breeders will do good on any whole grain, such as corn, oats or wheat, and some water for drinking purposes. Always keep grit and shells before them at all times.

The goose is the Christmas bird, the same as the turkey is the Thanksgiving bird. They are ten times easier to raise than turkeys and as many more times profitable.

To make a success of goose raising, I would select one of the large varieties of geese, either the Toulouse or the Embden.

The Toulouse is the largest of the goose family and the most popular, easily raised and mature very early, making them very popular with the majority of breeders. The reason for the great popularity is due to their great size and good laying qualities. If you take up the breeding of those you will always have a great demand for both stock and eggs.

Practical Turkey Culture

As briefly as possible, it is my purpose to give the information needed to those who never have attempted to grow turkeys and to enable them to make a success from the very outset. I know the supposition is that these birds are very difficult to raise and that there is some great secret or secrets connected with turkey raising, and that a lack of knowledge of it means that it is useless to try to grow them. This is all a mistake. Certainly there are some things to be learned about the work, just as there is in the keeping of all other kinds of poultry and live stock. It is not so difficult that the average mortal can not master it. If the patient reader will follow me two or three months in this journal there is no reason why he should not enjoy his home-grown turkeys for Thanksgiving, Christmas and the good wife's wedding anniversary, or the baby's birthday, if it comes in winter.

Turkeys are profitable, and that goes almost without saying. You certainly thought some one had made a nice bit of money, did you not, last Christmas when you handed over a great big green five-spot for a not overly large turkey? When you looked at the pictures in the comic section of your Sunday paper and saw the farmer going to market with a small load of turkeys and coming home with his sled piled high with silver dollars, you mentally ejaculated, "not such a great exaggeration." Yes, they come high and are going higher, and the best part of it all is, if one can raise them at all it is at a small actual cash outlay. Then "for shame, why such prices!" you exclaim. Oh, well; they won't nearly go around, you know, and those who would dance the turkey dance must pay the turkey price.

Out in the pasture fields the flock of turkeys is almost self-supporting. Yes, in many cases the grain consumed in the autumn months is more than saved by the insect and worm pests destroyed by the foraging flock. Next to quail, turkeys are the greatest insect destroyers of our Middle States, or in any section for that matter.

It may be news to you, my reader, living in a small village, when I tell you that I could grow turkeys in a village, yet it would be but the truth. The artist, Ludlow, who delighted for so long with his beautiful pictures of ideal fowls from an Englishman's view, once said he believed he could keep a Black Spanish fowl in a barrel and win with it. I believe if you would increase the space to a ten-foot square I could assert the same thing about growing turkeys. This is contrary to nature, of course, but in these latter days we do lots of things that are quite unnatural and we do them pretty smoothly, too. If the man or woman, and the breed of turkeys are right, it will not make so much difference as to the size of the acreage, roodage or sodage. To illustrate, I once went to buy a famous Bronze tom I had heard of, and was agreeably surprised when I found him owned by a miner, living upon a very small village lot, the confines of which were rarely passed by the bird of the golden green sheen and shadow.

You have from time to time read about the aged prisoner who came back to the penal institution whence he had lately been discharged after many years of incarceration, and begged to be allowed to end his days amid the scenes so long familiar to him. The turkey's idea of range and liberty can be just as effectually changed from the natural state to the back yard, with its ash heap and tall weeds, and be perfectly happy and prosperous. Yes, that is the idea exactly. What one man has done some other man or woman can do again and

again. Indeed, I think it is only our wills after all that fail at the outset. If in spite of every failure we would close our lips more firmly than ever, shake our head in defiance to failure, and rush to the attack with renewed energy, success would crown our efforts. It is just because so many give up when the thing will not go by itself, like a racing airship, that causes the great shortage in the turkey crop and the consequent lofty prices for these birds. It is just because I know that of the thousands who read these articles not one in fifty will ever try turkeys that I could almost guarantee to the fifty-first person who does attempt the work that there will be a continuance of the present high prices and a ready sale of all they grow. If you agree with me that it is work worth while and are ready to start in, look me up next month and I will tell you how I began once and how I would begin again if starting in turkey culture.—George Enty.

Fattening Poultry

The method used by most of the large establishments engaged in fattening poultry in this country is to feed the chickens in crates from troughs, according to information collected by the United States Department of Agriculture. From six to ten birds are placed in each division of the battery or feeding coop, depending on the size of the birds and the ideas of the feeder. Two or three chickens do better in a division together than when only one bird is placed in each compartment, and the cost of equipment and labor per bird varies inversely with the number of birds in each division. Another method which is used to a considerable extent on a small scale in this country is pen fattening. This method is adapted for use on the farm where the farmer does not care to go to the trouble of crate fattening, or where the price received for well-fed birds does not warrant the extra labor and feed cost of the crate method.

Most "milk-fed" chickens are fed for fourteen days, but results indicate that a more profitable gain can be secured in a shorter feeding period, provided the same price per pound can be obtained for the finished product. Practically all of the special feeding in this country involves the use of milk, thus producing "milk-fed" chickens. Milk, while the least expensive, seems to be the most essential constituent of the ration, and when a feeder can not get milk in some form he generally does not attempt to fatten poultry commercially. Fresh buttermilk, condensed buttermilk and skimmed milk are preferred in this relative order. The feed is mixed to the consistency of thick cream, or so that it will drip from the tip of a wooden spoon. Rations of 50 per cent corn meal, 40 per cent low-grade wheat flour and 10 per cent fine shorts; or of 58 per cent corn meal, 36 per cent oat flour and 6 per cent tallow, by weight, give very good results, producing gains which cost from 6.45 cents to 7.74 cents per pound. Low-grade wheat flour is a more economical feed than oat flour at the present prices of grain.

The results of extensive fattening tests conducted in the Middle West, showing the methods of feeding and the cost of grains, are given in Bulletin 140 of the Bureau of Animal Industry, United States Department of Agriculture.

"Please renew my subscription to The Feather, a very instructive paper, and to the point. You have some of the best of writers and as I have kept poultry for years, I appreciate the fine sentiments of all that is written."—Mrs. Geo. Wilcox, Canaan, Conn.

A Penn State Exhibit

The accompanying photo shows the exhibit made at the Williamsport and Philadelphia Poultry Shows this winter by the Poultry Division of the Department of Animal Husbandry of the Pennsylvania State College and Experiment Station. This was an educational exhibit, showing the different grades of market eggs, appearance at different ages, egg packages, etc. Sample rations for hens were exhibited and the results of feeding experimental lots on different rations shown by placards and by the feeds actually used and in the exact proportions and combinations in which they were fed. The feature of the exhibit which attracted most attention was an exhibit of several lots of dressed fowls that had been fattened experimentally at the station, comparing different rations and methods. The fowls were shown just as they appeared when dressed at the close of the experiment.

The experiment referred to was designed to show the profit which might

ing fowls. A bulletin will be issued by the college presently, giving all the details of this experimental work.—Homer W. Jackson, Instructor in Poultry Husbandry.

Better Eggs

Now is the time that eggs bring the highest price of the year. As the winter months are coming on the great cry is for fresh eggs in the city. What I mean by fresh eggs, are eggs that are not over a week old and are kept in a cool place, so that they are not shrunk and have to pass as seconds. The trade of today demands a strictly fresh egg. The custom of the farmers is to hold their eggs in the fall when they are raising in prices, till about this time of the year, and then take them to the store and sell them. These same farmers will say, "Why can not the storekeeper pay a greater price for



be secured by a better fattening of farm-raised poultry. The fowls in the experiment were bought from farmers without any selection, put into fattening crates and pens and milk fed, resulting in gains of as much as 35 per cent in 13 days. Different rations were used, the one giving best gains being composed mainly of cornmeal, oatmeal and 3 per cent tallow, mixed with buttermilk. Some lots were fed for 19 days, but the gains during the last week were slight, showing that when skillfully fed, fowls will make their most profitable gains in about two weeks. About as good results were secured with fowls in pens as in crates, but it was thought the quality of flesh of the crate-fed fowls was superior. In this experiment, white cornmeal and milk were used, resulting in making the fowls very much whiter in flesh as compared with the lot killed at the beginning of the test before feeding had begun.

For farmers' week at State College and at the Keystone Association Show at Duquesne Gardens in January, the State College Poultry Department had an entirely new exhibit in which nearly a hundred and fifty fowls were used. This also was an experimental proposition planned to answer many of the questions asked in connection with the fattening of farm flocks of market poultry. One of the interesting features of all the exhibits was a daily demonstration in killing and dry-pick-

them, as they are rated 55 cents in the city and you only get 32 cents in the store?" The reason is right here: The eggs that you took to the store have been held, so he has to pay you 32 cents a dozen if your eggs are fresh; he could not pay any more, as your neighbor also brings in eggs he has held for eight or ten days, or longer, and these same eggs are shipped in the crate with yours. What is the result? They are sent to the city on commission, and they will put them under a strong light, tested out, and they find fresh and stale eggs in the same case, so they are sold for mixed stock at about 37 cents a dozen. Now, who is to blame? If your neighbor's eggs were as fresh as yours, they would have brought 55 cents; so you lost 18 cents a dozen. Now, dear friend, isn't this 18 cents worth looking after? If your neighbor had sold his eggs when they were fresh they would have brought him about 28 or 30 cents, by holding them you lost 18 cents a dozen. The storekeeper is not to blame, it is yourselves. The way to help this condition is to get four or five neighbors to club together and ship your eggs every week. Grade them and keep separate the whites and the browns, and see what you will get out of it. The result will be, you will get top prices if your eggs are right and you will gain in money and satisfaction.—C. L. Parkhurst.

Questions Answered

Brooding Chicks

"How many chicks can be brooded in a brooder successfully? I have two 220-chick size, and would like to know if it will do as well as a smaller number. If not, how many? Would it be best to put a partition in and have 115 chicks on each size?"

"2. The brooders are out-door. Would it be better to run them under a shed?"

"3. What do you feed chicks?"

"4. Is blood meal as good as beef scraps for hens?"

H. L. R., Dallas, N. C.

1. No brooder should contain more than 50 chicks at one time, as they will crowd and trample upon the weaker ones. It would be better to place a partition in the brooder than to have all in one flock.

2. Out-door brooders do far better under a shed than in the open; besides it is better to attend to in bad weather.

3. We feed commercial chick feed from the beginning up until they are old enough to eat wheat and cracked corn. This commercial feed is advertised and sold by feed dealers generally.

4. Blood meal will serve as a good substitute for meat scrap, although we prefer the latter.

Wattles Frozen

"I have a fine thoroughbred cockerel that had his wattles frosted. Will that prevent him from service after being healed?"

J. H. T., Chariton, Iowa.

No. The only damage that can result is that the frosted part may eventually drop off, but it will in no other way injure the bird.

An Array of Questions

The Consolidated Realty Company, of Detroit, Mich., is after poultry knowledge and submits the following questions, to which are appended answers to the best of our knowledge and belief:

"What is the average percentage of chicks hatched by incubators?" Fifty per cent.

"What is the average loss of day old chicks up to the time they are six or eight weeks old?" Fifty per cent.

"What is the cost of feeding day old chicks until they are six or eight weeks old?" About 20 cents.

"What is the cost of feeding six or eight weeks old chicks (White Leg-horns) to the laying period?" About 50 to 75 cents.

"What is considered a good egg average for pullets the first year?" One hundred and fifty eggs.

"What is considered a good egg production for each State?" Do not know of any difference.

A New Book

"Principles and Practice of Poultry Culture," by John Henry Robinson, published by Ginn & Company, is the new book that has just been issued. This volume reflects great credit upon the author and publishers, and makes a most valuable contribution to poultry literature. The book is well gotten up, profusely illustrated and beautifully printed, containing 611 pages and bound in cloth. Price \$2.50.

Miss-Mated; or, They Failed to Nick

Major GRIZZLE, the DRAGOON, is NUN other than the ANCIENT SCANDARON, who wore a PORCELAIN HELMET with CRESCENT VIZOR. His SHIELD hung from his WHITE SIDE and with his BARB on his FRILLBACK, he was as fierce as a TIGER, and on his SWIFT, CLEAN LEG, BLAZEFACE boldly followed his RUSSIAN TRUMPETERS from ANTWERP to BRUNSWICK.

He was often a CARRIER of HYACINTHS to his BRUNETTE FLORENTINE, calling her his STARLING ARCHANGEL. She was a SHOW HOMER when in her ORIENTAL FRILLS and gown of SATINETTE DAMASCENE.

These HIGHFLIERS, while looking for a PRIEST, met a black MONK. He was a wise old AFRICAN OWL and said he could mate them, but he could not make the FAIRY SWALLOW that COLOR TAIL.

She was as mad as FIRE, and went up in the air like a KITE. It was as if she had SULPHURETTE. She then acted as cold as ICE toward old DRAG and began to POUT and as a BRUNNER she is no PIGMY.

She said: "Do URAL ICE in what a YELLOW SPOT this places me, you LONG FACE SWABIAN JACOBIN?"

"I will be a FLYING HOMER, mother, the DUTCHESS ISABEL will have the KINGS SWISS MONDAINS after your BALDHEAD."

He replied, "CUMULETS make up;" but she was away like a DART.

He stood as quiet as a QUAKER, looking very DOWN FACE.

At LATZ he stroked his BEARD and said: "You MALTESE HEN! For TURBITS I will be a TIPPLER and SHOW TIPPLERS an EXHIBITION RECORD. I will go over to the WHITE BAR SWALLOW RED EYE CERE till I shake like a MOOKEE."

He tore off his BADGE, jumped in the SADDLE, yelling "I am OFF on a NORWICH CROPPER," and one could play DOMINOS on his FANTAIL. After many PARLOR TUMBLERS of PIGEON MILK, the keeper said: "You DEWLAP the gullet wash and have a crop full, but CAPUCHIN like a MAGPIE, wattle you do for that leg weakness? Your plumage is MUFFED up, your rose is gone, so you had better put on your hood, hock your shell crest and chain or you will have to splash through a mottled flock of CHINESE OWLS, and they are worse than POLISH LINX, for I can find no carrier CARNEAUX VICTORIA, not even an ENGLISH OWL, tram or taxi on the STRAUSS that will home you without the SILVERETTE."

"No, aff RUNT meant, old SQUAB BREEDER, but in my o PINION, you better take the roup cure and go up the frontal flights without a leg band of TRUMPETERS."

As he answered, "My CHECKER career is at an end; I am DUN," the keeper cooed, "Twelve o'clock. All out. Closing up."—E. C. Duffy.

Cockerels bred to hens is the best plan to follow when mating up your breeding pens. Select active, vigorous birds and use none other.

Use---DIAMOND SPRAY---the

Efficient Poultry Lice Exterminator for Destroying Lice and Mites in chicken coops, roosts, runways and nests. By using

DIAMOND POULTRY LICE EXTERMINATOR

You can easily rid all cracks and crevices of vermin, and at the same time your coops, nests and roosts will be thoroughly disinfected, thereby enabling your poultry to fight off disease. — Ask your dealer, or write direct to

SOUTHERN CHEMICAL COMPANY MANUFACTURERS OF **DIAMOND SPRAYS**
903 Bromo Seltzer Tower Building, Baltimore, Maryland

The Warrenton Show

The initial show held at Warrenton, Va., January 25, 26 and 27, 1912, was a very classy event, and the promoters are to be congratulated on their merited success. There is every reason for believing that the annual event will prove very successful. This show center is located in a beautiful and prosperous center of the Old Dominion, and its membership is very much awake to the situation, and several live wires are to be noted in harness for Warrenton's show. Notwithstanding the snow storm that made its debut on the second day of the show, the attendance was large and manifested great interest in the fine display of fowls.

Five hundred high-bred chickens have been on exhibition in the Town Hall during the three days of the first poultry show. Of these, 116 are of the Orpington family, 76 Wyandottes, 66 Rhode Island Reds, 65 Plymouth Rocks, 50 Game Fowls, 41 Leghorns, 23 Cornish Indian, 21 Langshans, 14 Bantams, 12 Blue Andalusians, 7 White-faced Black Spanish, 5 Anconas and 4 Minorcas.

As to classes, the largest was Single Comb Black Orpingtons, 58 birds; the second was Game Fowls, 50 birds, pronounced by Judge Brown to be the finest class of the kind he has seen for seven years. The blue ribbon pen in this class he pronounced the best mating he has seen in his whole experience. All are Fauquier birds except two imported cocks, both of which failed to get a place. The third class in popularity were Rose Comb Rhode Island Reds, 40 birds, with close competitors in the Barred Plymouth Rocks, and White Wyandottes, with 29 birds each. Fauquier was far in the lead in the Golden Wyandotte class of 28 birds. On this bird we are proud to say that Fauquier has gained a national reputation, through the skillful breeding of the president of the show. Single Comb Buff Orpingtons were well represented by 28 fine birds; and the still popular Single Comb Rhode Island Reds were a highly creditable class of 25 birds. There were 41 Leghorns of every color, the leading class of 15 birds being of the white variety. Other varieties compared favorably with the above mentioned classes. It was notable for the elegant class of turkeys, as well as ducks and geese. The list of awards is as follows:

PLYMOUTH ROCKS—BARRED: Ck 1, hen 2, ckl 4, pul 1, Chas. C. Wine; hen 1, ckl 1, pul 2, J. A. Maffett; ckl 2, 3, R. H. Montgomery; pen 1, McCarty Bros.; pen 2, Mrs. R. Hordern; pen 3, Lucien Kleith; pen 4, Mrs. F. W. Hilbert. **SILVER PENCILED:** Pen 1, E. A. Kirk. **WHITE:** Pul 1, Hutchinson & Heitmuller; pen 1, Edward S. Schmid; pen 2, Mrs. M. E. Bradley; pen 3, L. A. Gray; pen 4, S. A. Appleton. **BUFF:** Pen 1, 2, H. A. Kirk.

WYANDOTTES—SILVER: Hen 1, H. A. Scott. **GOLDEN:** Ck 1, Albert Fletcher; ck 2, hen 2, 3, ckl 2, 3, pul 2, 3, 4, pen 2, F. D. Gaskins; hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, pen 1, Albert Fletcher, Jr.; ckl 4, pen 3, W. H. Smith. **WHITE:** Ck 1, 4, hen 1, 2, ckl 4, pul 1, 2, pen 2, W. W. Thomas; ck 2, ckl 1, pen 1, Dunston; ck 3, hen 3, ckl 3, pul 3, pen 3, Chester Pegran; ckl 2, pul 4, Chas. W. Hulfish. **PARTRIDGE:** Ck 1, hen 1, 2, 3, 4, J. W. Wines; ckl 1, H. J. Hunt; pen 1, Mrs. R. L. Detwiler.

RHODE ISLAND REDS—SINGLE COMB: Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, Clifton Farm; hen 2, J. D. Richards; ckl 2, pul 2, pen 2, Frank B. Haskell; pen 3, H. C. Groome. **ROSE COMB:** Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, pen 1, Clifton Farm; ck 2, 3, ckl 3, 4, Mrs. John McGill; hen 2, 3, pul 2, 3, H. C. Groome; ckl 2, pul 4, W. H. Blythe; pen 3, E. A. Russell, Jr.; pen 2, J. D. Richards; pen 4, Mrs. J. B. Beverley.

LANGSHANS—BLACK: Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 1, 2, pul 1, 2, pen 2, D. J. Hoge & Son; pen 1, 3, Carroll Menefee.

LEGHORNS—ROSE COMB BROWN: Hen 1, 2, pul 1, H. H. Scott; hen 1, W. H. Blythe. **SINGLE COMB BROWN:** Pen 1, Bedford Fletcher; pen 2, T. L. Evans. **WHITE:** Hen 1, ckl 1, pul 1, Mrs. W. H. Assheton; pen 1, Mrs. W. O. Bower; pen 2, H. C. Groome. **BUFF:** Pul 1, 2, 3, T. Frank Hall; pen 1, Mrs. P. J. Lake.

MINORCAS—SINGLE COMB BLACK: Hen 1, 2, pul 1, 2, E. S. Glavis.

SPANISH—WHITE FACE BLACK: Ckl 1, pul 1, pen 1, Edward S. Schmid.

ANDALUSIANS—BLUE: Hen 1, W. C. Hayes, Jr.; hen 2, ckl 1, pul 2, W. S. Stamper; pul 3, pen 1, T. F. Galloway; pul 1, Edwius R. Hinks.

ANCONAS—MOTTLED: Pen 1, E. G. Hulise.

GAMES—PITT: Ck 1, 3, ckl 1, 3, 4, pen 3, F. B. Gibb; ck 2, Walker; ck 4, Geo. S. Hamilton, Jr.; hen 1, 2, W. E. Kessler; hen 3, ckl 2, pen 1, 2, R. A. McIntyre; hen 4, C. H. Smith; pen 4, M. W. Markell.

ORPINGTONS—SINGLE COMB BUFF: Ck 1, hen 1, 2, R. A. Johnson; hen 3, pul 1, Rev. D. C. Mayers; hen 4, ckl 1, pul 2, 3, A. R. Colvin; ckl 2, Jerome A. D'Andelet; pen 1, Van A. Zahn; pen 2, Geo. B. Smith. **SINGLE COMB BLACK:** Ck 1, ckl 2, 3, Chas. W. Hulfish; ck 2, hen 1, 3, ckl 1, pul 2, 3, pen 3, Baker Johnson; ck 3, hen 2, A. C. Graham; hen 3, ckl 4, pul 1, pen 4, R. D. Lillie; pen 1, H. L. Hayes; pen 2, H. M. Hubbell. **SINGLE COMB WHITE:** Ck 1, hen 1, ckl 2, pul 1, pen 1, P. S. Bullington; hen 2, 3, Baker Johnson; ckl 1, pul 2, pen 2, B. E. Hutchinson; pen 3, R. D. Lillie. **ROSE COMB WHITE:** Hen 1, Geo. B. Smith. **CORNISH—DARK:** Ck 1, hen 1, 2, ckl 1, 2, 3, 4, pul 1, 2, 4, pen 1, 2, C. H. Smith; pul 3, F. D. Gaskins.

BANTAMS—BLACK BREASTED RED GAME: Hen 1, ckl 2, Rawlings Galloway; ck 1, pul 1, Miss M. C. Flynn; pen 1, Ludlow Clark.

TURKEYS—BRONZE: Old tom 1, old hen 1, young tom 4, young hen 1, C. H. Smith; old tom 2, young tom 3, young hen 2, B. A. Rucker; old hen 2, young tom 2, young hen 3, E. A. Russell, Jr.; young tom 1, S. A. Appleton; young hen 4, L. T. Evans. **WHITE:** Old tom 1, old hen 1, young tom 2, young hen 3, W. W. Thomas; old hen 2, 3, young tom 1, young hen 1, 2, H. M. Hubbell. **BOURBON RED:** All to R. Wallach.

DUCKS—WHITE PEKIN: Old drake 1, 2, old duck 3, 4, young drake 2, 3, 4, young duck 1, 2, W. W. Thomas; old drake 3, young duck 3, H. C. Groome; old duck 1, 2, young drake 1, J. H. Reid. **COLORED MUSCOVY:** All to Hampson Skinner. **WHITE MUSCOVY:** All to Mrs. W. W. Drake. **INDIAN RUNNER:** Old duck 1, Mrs. J. B. Beverley; young drake 1, young duck 1, 2, R. Wallach; young drake 2, young duck 3, L. E. Goodrich. **TOULOUSE:** Pair 1, H. C. Groome; pair 2, 3, W. W. Thomas.

Incubation

This is a very interesting topic. During recent years many incubator experiments have been conducted at several colleges, and some progress has been made. It is my purpose at this time, not so much to go into details of these, but to give, if possible, the best methods I know, that can be used by the average person.

There are many makes of incubators on the market that do fairly good work. They are not perfect, nor have the hatching power of a normal hen, but they are always ready to hatch eggs any day of the year, and a thoroughly constructed high grade incubator can be started at any time and incubate eggs in large numbers.

They do not cease hatching as some hens do; that is, unless the operator fails to do his part. To the prospective buyer I would suggest the purchasing of a well built machine, one that is double cased and whose fixtures, such as lamps, regulators, ventilation, etc., are the very best. Recent scientific investigations and experiments prove to me that the most important feature in artificial incubation is moisture. This question has been agitated for years by incubator manufacturers and successful poultry raisers.

I have known of some incubators that have given good results by using moisture during the entire hatch. I have seen fairly good hatches from incubators where no moisture was used, but under both conditions it depends largely where the incubator is operated. I know of incubators that will hatch a large percentage of the fertile eggs, and the operator not able to raise to maturity 50 per cent of the chicks, and I know from 30 years' experience that the cause of this failure is lack of the proper amount of moisture and ventilation. Another very important part in artificial incubation is the place in which the machine is operated. If possible, select a room that is well ventilated and one that varies but little in temperature. Where there is a strong odor of lamp fumes or where there are decaying vegetables, or where you depend upon dampness in a cellar to supply moisture, it is hardly possible under such conditions that an incubator will do good work. Under proper conditions, and properly constructed incubators, the lamp burns brighter, the eggs hatch better, and the chicks have more vitality when the air in the incubator room is pure.—E. W. Andrews, Buffalo, N. Y.

Penalties of Poultry Prohibition

Editor, The Feather:

It is supposed that our Commissioners and efficient Health Department officials are jubilant and contented at their great achievement—that mammoth mental monstrosity, the District chicken law—now that eggs are nearing the dollar a dozen mark.

THIS COUPON WORTH 35 CENTS

Return this coupon and 35 cents (cash or stamps) and we will send you American Hen Magazine until January 1, 1913 (regular price 70 cents). This gives you 70 cents' worth of the *Best Poultry Journal* Published for only 35 cents. American Hen Magazine has reliable writers on all subjects pertaining to poultry, fruit, pigeons, nuts and bees. It contains valuable information on how others have made from \$6,000 to \$20,000 a year from the investment of only a few dollars.

Joel M. Foster, a young man, made \$19,484.83 in one year. The Curtis boys made \$100,000 from their chickens. Mr. Parrin made over \$1,300 on a village lot. The Cornings (father and son) made \$12,000. One man made over \$35,000 in two years. Ernest Kellerstrass made \$18,178.53 last year. E. R. Philo made \$1,500 from 60 hens in 10 months.

Many others are making a snug fortune each year. Are you? Remember, you can make an independent living from chickens on a city lot, right in your own back yard. Read "A Fortune Raising Chickens on the No-Yard Plan" in American Hen Magazine.

Return this coupon and thirty-five (35) cents today. A single copy is worth more than \$35.00 to the man, woman, boy or girl who wants to make money fast. (Published each month). Address

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It must be a great satisfaction to them to know that they are depriving thousands of the many benefits and necessities of eggs, who can not afford to buy them at the present prohibitive price, but who could afford to keep a few hens and at this time be enjoying the luxury of eggs the same as their more fortunate fellows who have the price.

There is not the slightest doubt that this restriction at this very moment is the cause of many unfortunates being hungry. There is no telling what a godsend the price of a dozen or two eggs collected from a few hens would be to many of our citizens.

Does the Health Department in its mad crusade to prevent breeders of poultry and pigeons from committing suicide by all of the loathsome diseases that originate from a chicken coop wish to save said breeders for a death by starvation? Or is their office merely to keep them hungry and as uncomfortable as possible lest they forget the power of our great and liberal municipal government? Is our city any more healthy, is the death rate lower than in other cities and communities where common sense or the people themselves are in power? It appears rather that our liberty is the price of the privilege of abiding in the beautiful capital of the land of the free.—E. C. D.

Shows and Associations

The dates of the next show of the Ontario Poultry Association are December 16-21, 1912. H. W. Closs, secretary, Canandaigua, N. Y.

The annual meeting of the Rose Comb Buff Leghorn Club of America was held at Buffalo, N. Y., during the international show, January 16, 1912. There was an unusually good attendance. Mr. W. J. Vrooman, of Tutella, Ont., was elected first vice president. Mr. Almendinger resigned; also a few changes in State vice presidents.

The International Polish Club has made its initial bow to the public, and has issued its appeal to all who are interested in these beautiful birds to become members. The fee is \$1 a year. Those wishing information should write M. V. Caldwell, secretary-treasurer, International Polish Club, Route 5, Lisbon, Ohio.

The Monroe County (Mo.) Poultry Association has been organized under very flattering circumstances with the following officers: Chas. L. Blanton, president; E. M. Grimes, vice president, and J. W. Jackson, secretary and treasurer, Paris, Mo. This association has made rapid progress and proposes to put Monroe County on the poultry map.

The management of the great International Show at Buffalo has secured the grand new Exhibition Hall for their 1913 show, which will be held January 13 to 20. The third week in January will be the date for all future shows held by this organization. With a hall specially fitted for exhibitions of this kind and capable of handling over 6,000 exhibits on the main floor, the Buffalo boys expect to make the 1913 show a hummer. Stanley A. Merkley, secretary, 35 Coal and Iron Exchange, Buffalo, N. Y.

Warrenton, the old Virginia town, well known for the high-classed racing and jumping horses that are raised in and near it, was the scene of something that looked as though it would oust the horse-raising business, or, at least, be equal to it as an industry, within the near future. This was the showing made at the first meeting of the Warrenton Poultry Association, January 24, 25, 26 and 27, which was, without a doubt, an event which will give poultry raising a big push upward in this part of the State. The officers are to be congratulated on this their first meet. The entries were upward of 600 and the quality was above the average for the first show. The games and turkeys were the biggest attraction, and Judge Brown, Baltimore, Md., stated that they were the biggest classes he had had the satisfaction of seeing in five years.—L. S. Johnson.

The annual meeting of the International Rose Comb Black Minorca Club, which was held January 18, 1912, in connection with the Scranton (Pa.) Quality Show, will be one long remembered by those who had the pleasure of attending. The Rose Comb Black Minorca class was the largest class in the show, there being 124 entries and thirteen exhibitors from the United States and Canada.

The officers elected were as follows: President, C. B. Tobey, Scranton, Pa.; vice president, A. M. Moody, Boston, Mass.; secretary-treasurer, Lloyd C.

Mishler, North Manchester, Ind.; directors, Thos. O. Samuels, Nanticoke, Pa.; J. H. Minshall, Brantford, Ont.; H. H. Shields, Bennington, Vt.; H. A. Keister, Bangor, Mich. The International Rose Comb Black Minorca Club has just issued a 52-page catalogue giving articles on feeding and caring for Black Minorcas and explaining the different points about this breed. No one interested in Minorcas or who is undecided as to what breed to start with should be without this book. It will be sent free to any one who will notify the secretary, Lloyd C. Mishler, North Manchester, Ind., that they want a copy of the International R. C. B. M. Club catalogue.

The annual meeting of the American White Orpington Club was held at Indianapolis during week of February 5 to 10, in connection with the exhibition of the Fanciers' Association of Indiana. The attendance was larger than at any previous meeting. Report of secretary showed a good fund in the treasury and a good, flourishing condition; 500 new members were enrolled during the past year, making the club membership now over the 1,000 mark.

A committee was appointed to confer with the committee of the A. P. A. on standard type of the White Orpingtons. The secretary was authorized to get out a new club book and all members in arrears of dues are requested to pay up at once, to keep from being left out. Officers for 1912 were elected as follows: Ernest Kellerstrass, presi-

dent; E. B. Rogers and Dr. E. C. White, vice presidents; F. S. Bullington, secretary-treasurer. Executive Committee: Lawrence Jackson, chairman; Jno. W. Aldrich, W. Barry Owens, Claude E. Kellogg, Carl S. Byers, E. Kellerstrass and F. S. Bullington.

Six cities extended invitations for next meeting, to wit: Grand Central Palace, N. Y.; Pittsburg, Pa.; Springfield, Ill.; Cincinnati, Ohio; Chicago, Ill., and Wichita, Kans.

Every breeder of White Orpingtons should become a member of the club. The initiation fee is only \$1, which includes the year's dues in which you join, and yearly dues thereafter are only \$1, or life memberships, \$10. Specials will be offered at every show in the country next season, open for competition to club members only. Information and application blanks will

be gladly sent by F. S. Bullington, secretary, Box 328, Richmond, Va.

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for spraying your poultry houses. It drives the disinfectants into every crack and crevice. It has no superior as a general barrel spraying equipment. It is solidly built on skids and shipped ready to use. All parts are easy to get at; pump is outside; bronze ball valves; hemp packing; automatic agitator. This

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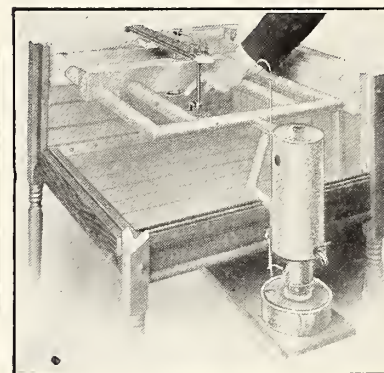
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KELLERSTRASS CRYSTAL WHITE ORPINGTONS

That Lay and Win Stock direct from Kellerstrass Farm (\$100 pen, out of celebrated \$300 settings), also stock from his \$150 and \$250 pens. Won 3d pen, class of five, Falls Church, Va., Dec., 1911; second cockerel, class of 8, Washington, D. C., Jan., 1912; first cockerel and Am. W. O. Club Special; second pullet and second pen, Warrenton, Va., Jan., 1912. Fine type and color, utility and exhibition combined. Eggs \$5, \$4 and \$5 per guaranteed setting. Choice cockerels \$4 up; Trios \$12 up. Free mating list and my new departure plan for a tested setting of 15 fertile eggs on first order.

B. E. HUTCHINSON (D. C. Vice President Am. W. O. Club), - - 3805 TWELFTH STREET, BROOKLAND, D. C.



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There is a reason why chicks die in the shell. There is a reason why so many chicks hatched in an incubator are weaklings and deformed and can not be raised. After thirty years of constant study and experience we are the first to discover the reason. Send for our Catalogue, it will tell you all about it.

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This work tells how to convert egg failures into egg successes; how to systematize at all stages; and all about the management of the industry right down to the marketing point. Conditions in all great poultry centers and countries are discussed, and the best practical business methods of each explained. From beginning to end the book keeps the PAYING POINT strictly in view; all facts, figures and explanations are based upon ACTUAL EXPERIENCE.

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Business World

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The cost of any construction may be divided into two general accounts: Cost of material and cost of labor. One is as much a part of the investment as the other. Since they are so related to each other, and each is essential to the other, it is an economic problem to see that the quality of each is in accord with the other. That is to say, if you are building a fence with posts that will last for many years, the work should be done in such a manner that the fence will stand in good condition as long as the posts remain good.

On the other hand, it is not profitable to set untreated posts of a quickly decaying kind with the expense of labor competent to build that fence to last many, many years. In other words, there is a relation between the quality of the material and the quality of the labor. It goes without saying that the fence with posts prepared to remain solid for a long period and built so well as to stand for the same time is the cheapest fence per year of its service.

The high cost of both labor and timber has emphasized the importance of using wood preservatives. There was a time when the timber supply was so great that durability was only

At the annual meeting of the American Cornish Club, held at Baltimore, Md., January 4, 1912, the following officers were elected: President, W. A. Low, Catonsville, Md.; first vice president, E. W. Leitch, Shawnee, Okla.; second vice president, J. P. Bridges, Douglass, Kans.; third vice president, M. E. Kennedy, Temple, Ga.; secretary-treasurer, H. C. Hayes, Eureka, Ill. This was the greatest meeting ever held by the club—more members in attendance and more birds on exhibition, there being 197 Cornish of all varieties. This meeting will do a great amount of good for the club. H. C. Hayes, Sec'y, Eureka, Illinois.

The letters which were sent out announcing a meeting of Rhode Island White breeders on February 8, at Indianapolis, brought breeders from many States. As a result the Rhode Island White Club of America was organized, and starts with over seventy-five charter members. The officers elected for the coming year are: President, Carl D. McCarthy, Kempton, Ind.; first vice president, C. W. Knox, Pulaske, Pa.; second vice president, E. C. Bartlett, Borodino, N. Y.; third vice president, H. W. Gossard, Chicago, Ill.; fourth vice president, A. B. Duncan, Atlanta, Ga.; fifth vice president, G. J. Simmons, Seattle, Wash.; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. C. M. Vertrees, Cecilian, Ky. Executive Board: For one year, Clem Hunter, Englewood, Colo.; for two years, R. W. Gault, Champaign, Ill.; for three years, Elam Leary, Greenfield, Ind. A year book will be published containing club standard to be used by breeders until the breed is admitted to the American Standard of Perfection. For further information write to the secretary or president.

The annual meeting of the National Columbian Wyandotte Club was held at Cleveland, Ohio, January 25, 1912, and a good representation of the membership was present. Enthusiasm ran high for our chosen variety and the outlook for improvement and increased popularity of Columbian Wyandottes was never brighter. Most favorable comment was made upon the appearance of the new Columbian Wyandotte Journal, published at Nashville, Tenn.

The increase in membership was 115 for the year, and it is confidently hoped to double the present membership. It was voted that the club secretary represent the club at all meetings of the American Poultry Association. Resolutions were passed upon the death of Brother C. H. Dillon, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The following officers were elected: President, Walter G. Fenton, Mt. Clemens, Mich.; vice presidents, Charles D. Cleveland, West Orange, N. J.; S. E. Tiffany, Elkins, W. Va.; Thomas S. Falkner, Tiffin, Ohio; Prof. A. A. Brigham, Brookings, S. Dak.; J. W. Whitney, Uplands, Cal.; secretary-treasurer, Ralph Woodward, Grafton, Mass.; executive committee—the president, secretary-treasurer and George F. Eastman, Granby, Mass.; J. P. Keating, Westboro, Mass.; Charles D. Cleveland, West Orange, N. J.; S. T. Campbell, Mansfield, Ohio; Dr. C. J. Andrus, Canandaigua, N. Y.

The club catalogue will be issued about March 1 and besides giving the list of members will contain interesting articles by prominent Columbian Wyandotte breeders. Membership dues are \$1 per year and applications for membership and request for catalogue should be sent to Ralph Woodward, secretary-treasurer, Grafton, Mass.

Fresh water and plenty of it should be kept before your fowls always.

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WANTED—5,000 HOMER OR COMMON pigeons. Pay at least 25c pair. Also 5,000 plump, live chicks, 1 pound each and over. Highest prices paid. N. Gilbert, 1128 Palmer St., Philadelphia, Pa.

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considered because of the labor of cutting it and shaping it for use. Now its scarcity necessitates the strictest economy in its use. We are compelled to make every stick do its most efficient service, both as to its function and length of service.

Because of this condition the use of wood preservatives is rapidly growing in favor with men who are scientifically studying methods of obtaining the most efficiency from timber in any capacity for which they wish to use it.

Modern methods of manufacturing preservatives have given us one of peculiar excellence. Fortunately its properties are such that its use in-

cludes disinfecting purposes. Avenarius Carbolineum has won a most enviable record as a wood preservative and disinfectant. The following letter will give you some light on the real merit of this remarkable article. Mr. Boyer, the writer of the letter, is the associate editor of the American Poultry Advocate:

"Hammonton, N. J., Jan. 17, 1912.
"Ernest F. Hartmann,

"Pres. Carbolineum Wood Preserving Co., New York City.

"Dear Sir: I have been intending for some time to write you about my tests with Avenarius Carbolineum, but have been prevented by pressure of other matters.

"We have used it both as a wood preservative and as a louse paint, and in both cases have found it to do excellent work. We find it better for painting posts put in the ground than by painting with tar or by charring. I can certainly recommend it.

"Respectfully,
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Certainly no class of people should enjoy a more bountifully supplied table than the farmer. If his garden is good he "sets a good table." Otherwise his

stomach pays the bill, and we fear too many stomachs are settling unjust accounts!

The possibilities of the garden are unlimited, except

by ourselves; that is, by how we direct our energy. Too frequently our gardens receive no particular attention. Work in many instances is never definitely planned. It is put off from day to day, waiting, as an odd job, to be cared for when there is nothing else to do; and those times are seldom found on farms today.

We hope our readers will come to realize more fully the value of the home garden as a source of profit, saving, and a means of better living.

Perhaps, if every farmer made a more careful study of garden implements and had modern, easy working tools, he would take more interest in his garden. This question of the tools—planter, the rake, the hoe, the cultivator, the sprayer, etc.—needs more thorough study. Too many gardeners, farm gardeners, do not realize what the proper tools can do for them toward making the garden more profitable, more pleasant and produce better quality. Make your gardening easier and you will like it better. And you can only make it easier by using the best tools. Maybe you don't know what there really is for you in the way of garden tools. You should investigate modern gardening implements. Their cost need not prevent your owning them, for most of them will pay for themselves each year.

We can not urge our readers too strongly, no matter what kind of garden they have, to get familiar with modern tools. Bateman Manufacturing Co., Box 300, Grenloch, N. J., will gladly send you their garden tool booklets. Write them. They have tools for many purposes, big and small; also sprayers. They can "fit you."



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THE PERFECTED POULTRY OF AMERICA is the title of the latest book from the press of The Feather Publishing Co., Inc., Washington, D. C. As its name suggests, it treats exclusively of the breeds and varieties of poultry recognized by the American Standard of Perfection. It describes and illustrates all standard breeds and varieties of poultry, ducks, geese and turkeys. It gives the history of each variety, including its origin and development, enumerates its special characteristics and describes its shape and color. The subject-matter is by T. F. McGrew and Geo. E. Howard, and the illustrations are by Louis P. Graham. Each of the parti-colored varieties is represented by a drawing of the male and female, which are surrounded by sample feathers from different parts of the plumage, so arranged that any one can tell from the illustration what the requirements of under-color and surface-color are for each section of the bird. The book contains over 250 pages, and is finely printed on excellent stock.—Poultry Herald, St. Paul, Minn.

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Gentlemen: I am sending you an order for some remedies for poultry. I have tried your Egg-a-Day Cure with great success. I bought it through The Feather, where I got some books, etc. I am writing to you this time as I would like to handle your supplies for my customers and would like to have your agents' rate of discount. I am enclosing check for remedies listed below.

Very truly,

EDW. S. LAMBRITE

Erwinna, Pa.

LAYING LIKE IT WAS SUMMER

January 21, 1912.

The Successful Poultry Remedy Co., Washington, D. C.

I have used the Successful Egg-a-Day Condition Powder and have found that it will do all that it is recommended to do. Before I commenced using this Powder my chickens were poor and sickly and would not eat. But now they are fat and healthier looking than any we ever had before, and they don't seem to be able to get enough to eat. They are now laying as regularly as if it were summer.

MRS. E. V. BIRCH,

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COMES UP TO RECOMMENDATIONS

November 11, 1911

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Gentlemen: I thought that you might like to know of my success in using The Successful Egg-a-Day Condition Powder. I purchased a large package of same on Saturday, October 28, 1911, and began feeding the Successful Formula for laying hens. During the month of October I received 9½ dozens of eggs, and the first ten days of November, after using your Egg-a-Day Condition Powder, I received 16½ dozens of eggs from the same flock of hens. I can safely say that your Egg-a-Day Condition Powder comes up to your recommendation.

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Vol. XVI. No. 4
APRIL, 1912

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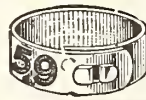
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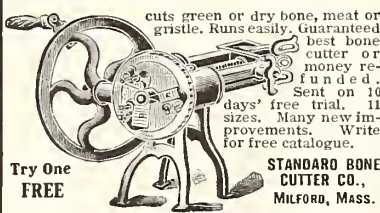
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PLYMOUTH ROCKS, by T. F. McGrew, contains six colored plates of the three varieties of Plymouth Rocks, and other illustrations in black and white. The book has been carefully prepared, and as it is issued for the benefit of breeders of this variety of fowls, it should prove of considerable value to all interested in them.

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"The Missouri Hen and Cow Special"

"The Missouri Hen and Cow Special" left St. Louis over the Burlington railroad on March 5 and spent five days instructing the farmers along that line of railroad in scientific dairying, poultry raising and in the building of good roads. The speakers on poultry farming were T. E. Quisenberry, director of the State Poultry Experiment Station at Mountain Grove, and R. C. Lawry, of the Yesterlaid Egg Farm at Pacific. The instructors in dairying were Dr. W. P. Cutler, State Dairy and Food Commissioner, of Columbia, and E. A. Ikenberry, State Dairy Inspector, of St. Joseph. In the interest of good roads, Curtis Hill, State highway engineer, and Dean Walter Williams, of the School of Journalism at Columbia, were the speakers. Prof. Martin and six students from this last-named department accompanied the special and made reports to each local newspaper and to the metropolitan dailies.

This is the third "Egg and Cream Special" which has been run through Missouri this year. The first was over the Frisco, the second over the Rock Island, and this last train over the Burlington. The train consisted of the engine, baggage car, two lecture cars, a sleeper, a diner and an observation car. The schools were visited in each town and addresses made to the high schools and higher grades. In addition to large crowds of farmers, the special was met in some instances by bands, school children and by commercial clubs. In some cases the stores were closed and everybody met the train. In such towns, lectures were delivered in both lecture cars and on the depot platform. In some cases as many as 700 to 1,000 people met the special. The special was out five days and thirty-one stops were made and over 15,000 people heard the addresses on these subjects.

The points upon which stress was laid in reference to poultry farming can be summed up as follows:

The essentials to success are good stock, good feed, good houses, good care and good, common sense. Good stock, pure-bred, with strong constitutional vigor and with proper selection in breeding. Good houses, properly located, sensibly designed, well ventilated and conveniently arranged. Good feeds, skillfully fed and properly balanced. To make it plain to the school children it was stated that a good feed was composed of 5 G's:

Grit—with which to grind the food.
Grains—corn, wheat and oats and a dry mash made of the same foods ground.

Greens—ground alfalfa, clover, cow peas, beets or cabbage.

Grubs—dry beef scraps, skim or buttermilk or meat food.

Gumption—the use of common sense in all your operations. Good care was the fourth essential, a willingness to work, and the ability to hatch and rear chickens. If any one fact was made plainer than another it was that you must keep your houses and premises absolutely clean, provide for sufficient ventilation, pure water and feed, and an abundance of exercise. The fact was pointed out that the hen is healthiest, happiest and does best when she is at work. She is one of the few things in this life that loves to work and is so modest that she never crows, cackles or brags about what she does until she has delivered the goods.

While most farmers don't keep sufficient hens to make it profitable, simply keeping enough for their own family use, yet it is better to keep 100 hens and make a profit on them all than to attempt to keep 1,000 and lose the profit on all of them. The farmer was urged to grow some poultry in the corn field. By having small colony houses substantially built on oak runners, you can pull these out into the orchard, clover or corn field. It is important that the ground be cultivated and either oats, wheat, rye, corn or rape be grown in the soil. If poultry is kept upon one piece of ground or in small coops or yards continuously until the ground is bare, it becomes contaminated with disease germs and failure results.

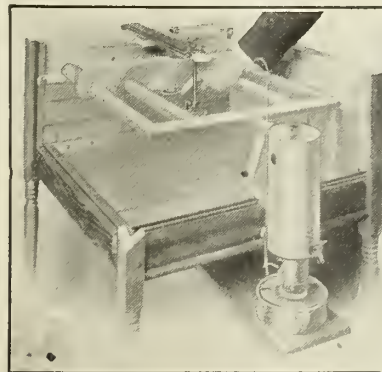
Selection was urged from the time the eggs are incubated until the hens enter the breeding pen. Cull out all under-sized eggs, overly large eggs, thin and rough shells. Cull out all weak or crippled chicks at hatching time. Continue to cull out those which are slow in developing, slow to feather, and cull out weakness and disease wherever shown until the hens enter the breeding pen. Do not breed from a male or female under one year old. Your hens are your most valuable breeders. You can build up an egg-laying strain by breeding from the pullets which lay when they are five to seven months old. Also breed from the hens and pullets which lay during the winter months. The pullets which lay first and the pullets and hens which lay when the weather and surroundings are not favorable for egg production show that they have a born tendency to lay, and are most likely to transmit some of their good qualities to their offspring. When you discover the early-laying pullet and the winter layer, mark them in some way so that they may be distinguished from the rest of the flock and include them in your breeding pen.

Prevention of disease is worth more than cure. It seldom pays to doctor poultry unless it be a valuable bird and the disease be in a mild form. The best remedy is the hatchet. So breed, feed, house and manage your poultry that you may avoid disease. One-third of a teaspoonful of Epsom salts was recommended for each fowl, fed in a moistened mash twice a month. The use of permanganate of potash in the drinking water was recommended. Dissolve the crystals in a bottle of water and then pour enough into the drinking water until it is turned a rich wine color. Disinfect the drinking vessels and never allow them to become empty. Provide a bountiful supply of pure water at all times and feed well and plenty if you expect a large number of eggs, for the egg is composed largely of water and fat. A good ration is composed of 2 parts cracked corn, 2 parts wheat and one part oats, fed in a straw litter on the floor of the hen house night and morning. Also provide a dry mash in a box or hopper where the hens can get it at all times. This is made as follows: 100 pounds of corn meal, 100 pounds of wheat middlings or shorts, 50 pounds of bran, 50 pounds of alfalfa meal, 15 pounds of oil meal, 75 pounds of dry beef scraps, 3 pounds of table salt free from lumps. Skim milk or buttermilk is a valuable meat food and should take the place of dry beef scraps when possible to provide it.

The baby chick should not be fed until it is at least 48 hours old. The yolk is absorbed by the chick just before it leaves the shell and contains enough food to last the chick several days. If you feed too soon, this yolk is not assimilated and remains in the chick. It sometimes decays and gangrene sets in and a form of diarrhea is sometimes caused in this manner. Or it sometimes remains undigested and becomes hardened. The first food should consist of 8 parts dry bread crumbs, 8 parts rolled oats, 2 parts sifted beef scraps and 1 part bone meal. Slightly moisten this with sour milk or butter milk. Feed a little at morning, noon and night. Between meals feed one feed of 3 parts cracked wheat, 2 parts fine cracked corn and one part pinhead oatmeal. Keep the following mixture before chicks in hopper or box: 3 parts corn meal, 3 parts wheat bran, 3 parts wheat middlings, 3 parts beef scraps, one part bone meal, one-fourth part ground charcoal. Provide plenty of clear, fine grit from the time the first feed is given. Also plenty of water. After two weeks the bread crumb mixture can be discontinued and the cracked grains and dry mash act as the whole ration. Provide a grass run or give plenty of green food. Don't overcrowd the chicks. Disinfect your incubators and brooders. Don't let the chicks out in the dew or too early in the morning if you are troubled with gapes. Give the angle worms time to go into the ground before releasing the chicks from their coops or brooders. Fight the lice and mites by painting the roost poles and nest boxes with a mixture of one part of crude carbolic acid and two parts of kerosene. Also dust the hens with a good lice powder made of 3 parts of gasoline, 1 part of crude carbolic acid, 90 or 95 per cent pure. Mix the acid and gasoline in plaster of paris just a little at a time and stir well until thoroughly mixed. When dry dust into the feathers and fluff of the hen.

Eggs on the farm should be graded. They should be marketed while fresh; should be clean and wholesome. It is estimated that about 20 per cent of the eggs from the farm are unfit for food. The cold storage man does not lose this, the egg dealer or buyer does not lose this, for both buy at a price sufficiently low to protect them from loss. The farmer and producers then are the ones who suffer from careless methods and practices in marketing farm eggs. Missouri should not only strive to retain her place as the leading poultry-producing State of the Union, but should also strive for a reputation in the best markets of the world as being a State which excels all others in the quality of its product as well.

"I have my first copy of The Feather now before me and must say that I like it better than any poultry journal I have seen."—W. Burdett Robertson, M. D., Burnsville, N. C.



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THE POULTRY BUSINESS

A Few Reasons Why It May Be Followed by Everyone.

By O. F. SAMPSON

Nearly every business has its dull times. This is especially true of the mechanical trades and with manufacturers. The dairy and farming interests are also more or less susceptible to these dull times, though these interests deal in food necessities. The poultry business, however, is freer from such depressions than almost any other business, and while poultry produce in market may vary in price or demand with the season, the money invested is less liable to radical change in values of stock, etc., than is the dairyman's; grazier's or others who breed and sell animals or their product.

This is a strong reason for the increasing demand for good poultry and for the amazing increase in this industry for the past decade. Many years ago a great many farmers and others believed that this demand for poultry and their product would soon reach its limit, and a reaction and loss would come. Instead, the demand constantly increases, and with it is a constant increase of prices for the poultry product in market, and in the prices paid for good birds for breeders.

One reason why this is true is because the business appeals to so many. It requires only a little capital to engage in the business in a small way and it may be carried on under different conditions in country, village or city. No other business is so pliable in this important respect. Farming, dairying, grazing, manufacturing, merchandising and the trades require suitable locations; and, with the possible exception of the trades, require considerable capital. The poultry industry is less dependent upon these essentials than any business today. But while it requires comparatively little money to conduct it, the business returns good profits. In this respect it often stands ahead of many ventures that require five or ten times the investment in its line. Many poultry plants and a few farm flocks and village plants are giving about 100 per cent or better on the investment yearly. Some special cases are quoted which give two or three times this amount, but the average farm flock will scarcely average this much. Nearly every flock will produce double the cost of their feed to keep, and this is not true in many other ventures, both in agriculture and in the trades. I am certain that as many people have become successful in this business as in almost any other today; and, as a rule, those who have reached success began with little money invested. Every year the poultry ranks are increasing by people from the city, villages and rural sections, who have gotten their start while working at their trades or professions before depending entirely upon the new venture. Some of our most successful poultry plants today began as a side issue this way. The Cornings are one example of beginning small and the Philo plant at Elmira of an entirely different idea is another. Dozens of breeders of note today are other examples, such as Fischel, Kellerstrass, Northup, etc. There are dozens of others who developed their business upon the farm, but when as large as they desired, left off farming to devote their entire time, or in other cases, most of it, to the poultry business.

We hear a lot about failures in the poultry business; or, rather, some one not engaged in the business for reasons

of their own, will say, "Why is it so many people fail in the business if it is so good?" As a matter of fact the better any business is the more failures it will have in many cases, because if a thing looks like "easy money" anyone is ready to try it whether he succeeds or fails. I am not here conceding that there are a greater per cent of failures in the poultry business than in other lines, because I know of no statistics to prove it. Our census figures of 1910 are a rather strong argument against any such statement, and tend to show a much better growth in poultry interests than any other industry of like nature. I rather think general information will give argument for rather than against the poultry progress. Even though there were many failures in the business, what then? Every business has them, and I know of no business where anyone can lose as little money by failure. Many of the instances cited as failure, however, are not true.

The above statements should prove that as a business venture, or a side issue, poultry raising stands as good a chance to win as any business; and at a less cost to begin business. The breeder may begin with a few birds (always of the best he can afford) and increase them yearly; or he may put as much money in stock and houses, etc., as he desires. He may breed for the show room (fancy) or for market (utility) purposes, or both, if he desires. There is as little chance for deterioration in this busi-

ness as any I know, and the profits from it by care and work are better than many others.

Shall I Raise Poultry?

"Shall I raise poultry?" This is a question that is being asked and turned over and over in the minds of many thousands of people who are tied to desk, counter, shop or some other confining position. I say to them: Certainly raise poultry, and the quicker the better. That job of yours is awful and you need to do other work. But listen, don't go in too heavy at the start, nor give up your income for a while, at any rate. Make a start, try your hand; see if you are adapted to the work and then if it proves that you can make a success in a small way, you will feel safer in quitting your job and turning your back on the high bricks and stone walls; shake the dust of the street from your feet and go to the free open country and live the life of a poultry farmer. You will then be healthy, happy and free. Almost anyone can find room for a few hens and a male, a bunch of day-old chicks, or a few setting hens, each with a clutch of eggs. From that day on if you get out of bed an hour earlier and come direct home from work and spend an hour caring for your poultry, you will be healthier and the day's work will seem easier, and, if rightly cared for, it will not be long until you will eat real eggs for breakfast and they will not cost you five cents each, either. There are three ways of getting started. The first is buying matured stock, which is, in my opinion, the surest and safest way, for these reasons: You have the foundation and can set the eggs, and should the old hen leave her nest, break her eggs, or

your incubator lamp go out, or any other accident happen, you would still have the parent stock. The second and cheapest way, provided you have good results, is buying eggs and a few old setting hens, or a small incubator. Third and quickest way to get young stock is buying day-old chicks. It matters not how you start, but start slow and grow as your knowledge of the business grows.

We all have to crawl before we walk and if we can not make a success with a dozen hens, nor raise two dozen chicks to maturity, how can we hope to care for a hundred or more fowls? Poultry is becoming one of the greatest sidelines known and is, in many ways, so different from others of its kind as it gets your mind away from business and gives the much-needed outdoor exercise as well as pays big when rightly handled.

Get a few hens, a clutch of eggs or a bunch of day-old chicks and a few months' care will either cure the case of hen fever or intensify it. In either case, it will be well. If the first happens you will still have your job and if the second you can keep right on for the little hen is good to tie to.—L. S. Johnson.

A few minutes now mean a lot of time in the future.

Feed the breeders heavy, they need it in more ways than one.

ESTABLISHED 1892

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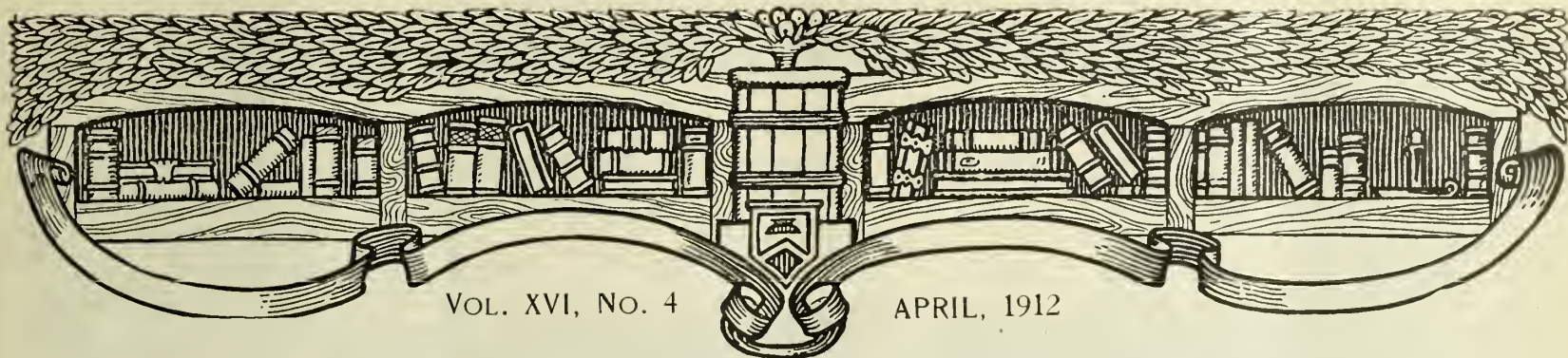
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VOL. XVI, No. 4

APRIL, 1912

Editorial Comment

The Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station in its bulletin "Some Experiments With Poultry" gives some very good suggestions on increasing the egg production of the farm fowl. The bulletin gives the average egg yield for Maryland of seventy eggs per year. This is an exceedingly low average and is attributed to the five following reasons:

I. That the main reasons of the low average egg production in Maryland are improper housing, injudicious feeding, lack of knowledge concerning the principles of breeding and the retention of fowls after they have passed their second year. Of these, injudicious feeding and the retention of old fowls are the most important.

II. The percentage of shrink in egg production during the third year proves conclusively that birds of this age are being maintained at a serious financial loss. It is not that they do not make a profit but the fact that this profit is too small, when compared with the returns during the first and second years, to justify the expense of maintaining them.

III. That the trap-nest records of good producers have clearly indicated that from 80 to 90 per cent of them produce their first egg in the late fall or early winter. In other words during the months of November and December.

IV. The above condition furnishes a way whereby the farmer can select his good producers without the aid of the trap-nest.

V. By the adoption of a method for marking the fowls, the farmer will not only increase the egg production of his own flock but also add very materially in the effort to increase average egg production of the Maryland hen.

* * *

When looking around can you help from thinking that after all a goose is not the silliest thing in the world?

* * *

A mean man is a parasite on any community.

* * *

It is estimated that about 90 per cent of all farmers raise poultry and eggs. The past decade has seen a great increase in poultry and eggs, and yet the demand is greater than the supply. The average price of eggs today is double what it was ten years ago. A few fowls these days are a paying investment.

* * *

For every fowl you have this spring do your best to have two next fall.

* * *

The Poultry Item is to be congratulated on its selection of Mr. Charles T. Cornman, of Carlisle, Pa., as editor of that publication. Mr. Cornman is admirably fitted for the position, and thoroughly capable of giving the best there is in poultry knowledge. He knows every phase of the industry,

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and has long been counted a successful breeder and one of the most competent judges of the country. Charlie will do himself proud in this position, and can but add to the prestige of the Item. After all these years of acquaintance, we are glad to know him.

* * *

If one hen lays one egg a day how many eggs will your flock lay?

* * *

The more a cock crows the less the wind blows.

* * *

The campaign that is being adopted by some of the aspirants to office at the next meeting of the American Poultry Association is worthy of the best ward politician that ever pulled votes. It's an aggressive progressive one for sure.

* * *

No one is so privileged to knock as is old man Opportunity.

* * *

Of course we are pleased to know that The Feather is well thought of by its readers and when we receive expressions of appreciation we feel that our labors are not entirely wasted. Mr. J. E. Holt, Sunland, Cal., says: "I have received a copy of

your January issue and needless to say I always read your magazine with interest for the type, style, and thoughts conveyed." Another one comes from The Real Estate Bulletin, at Louisville, Ky., which reads like this: "The Feather is a welcome visitor every month, and is rich in everything pertaining to poultry and pigeons. If you wish to know what's going on in the poultry world you'll have to read The Feather." We receive numbers of these pretty expressions from all over the country and are always glad to have them.

* * *

A fool sometimes gathers enough moss to cover his neighbors over.

* * *

Now, here is one from Mr. O. F. Sampson, Youngs, N. Y., which we know you will appreciate as much as we do. Mr. Sampson says: "I am proud of The Feather, with its clean pages and truthful articles. You use more than ordinary judgment in leaving out, rather than putting in copy. That's the final test. If some of the poultry journals are good things in small packages, The Feather is the best in the package. It's a pleasure and profit to read your journal each issue, and a greater satisfaction to have one's articles appear in it. I consider your publication one of the best of the most worthy ones. The two hundred pages in size doesn't make leading journals for readers or advertisers, nor the forty to sixty thousand circulation the best criterion of value. The court of last resort is in the matter and the readers—you have both."

* * *

The one reason why a doctor is not partial to ducks is because of its note of alarm.

* * *

The sitting hen is unlike any other institution and its capital stock is based solely on fuss and feathers.

* * *

A correspondent says: "A half dozen bantam hens and a well-bred rooster will protect the poultry yard from cats, dogs and even rats almost as well as a dog. They are brave and spunky and will permit nothing dangerous to approach their premises." The point for you to remember is that the rooster must be "well bred" to afford perfect protection in your poultry yard.

* * *

If you have not succeeded in raising anything else—try ducks.

* * *

When a hen is fed too much carbonaceous food she ceases to be efficacious.

Poultry of Quality

By MICHAEL K. BOYER

ALL successful businesses were built upon a good reputation. There is no surer method for gaining that reputation than by producing a superior article. The markets are generally oversupplied with poor stuff, while the demand for prime stock is greater than the supply. Quality is secured not only by the proper growth of the birds, but also in the manner of dressing, and the mode of shipping to market.

The New York Produce Review some time ago said that the percentage of poultry which arrives on the market in poor condition is entirely too large. The loss to shippers each year from this cause is much greater than realized, and is a leak which in most cases is unnecessary, as little more care in cooling the poultry, and getting the animal heat entirely out, would insure it arriving in sound condition. A local commission house has issued a circular letter on this subject to its shippers, from which we extract the following:

"Our experience and observation is that the cause of a great deal of poultry arriving in bad order is the fault of the shipper, either by not having cooled out properly, putting too much in barrels without sufficient ice, or shipping dry packed during warm or muggy weather. Poultry that is to be tanked down in ice water before shipping should be well cooled out by putting in three changes of fresh well water before putting into ice water; this takes the animal heat out gradually, whereas if put down in ice water too quickly it drives the animal heat to the entrails, making a condensed and extreme temporary heat, which sours the contents of the crop and entrails and which in reaction gives a strong and unsavory smell to the poultry, and almost invariably gives a greenish cast to that thin portion of the birds at the lower point of the breast, which of course affects the price from one to two cents per pound. This mistake of improper cooling occurs more with winter and inexperienced shippers than with those who ship the year round. However, it frequently occurs even with them that they have used too much haste, or dressed too close up to shipping time."

Mistakes often occur by not promptly dressing after killing. An instance is called to mind of a poultryman who scalded his stock instead of dry-picking it. He killed at night and allowed the birds to lie until next morning coated with their feathers. After dressing he shipped to the commission house, and was surprised to learn that the stock reached destination in a bad condition, having turned green around the vent. The entire shipment had to be destroyed. Had those birds been dressed as quickly as killed, and allowed to cool during the night, no such results would have occurred.



A Busy Pen of Breeders

Professor C. K. Grahna, of the Connecticut Agricultural College, says that in order to produce a meaty bird it is necessary to breed with birds of a particular type, and in selecting that type not only must the bird have a frame suitable for carrying plenty of flesh, but one that when dressed will be tempting to the eye, for all dealers agree that goods must be tempting to the eye to be salable at fancy prices, and it is the man who secures the fancy prices that has the least trouble satisfying his customers. Everybody is anxious for good goods, the only trouble being that there is "never enough to go round." The one objection to chicken, be it for roast or for fricassee, is that there is too much dark meat and too little breast or white meat, but when the consumer sees a flat, round-breasted chicken, she immediately selects that bird, figuring that there is going to be at least one extra slice of white meat, and not for a minute will she consider the possibility that another bird, not quite so plump, and which may have a slice less of white meat, may more than make it up in the number of square inches in the slice. For this reason it is necessary that parents be selected that will produce a round-breasted type not too deep from the back to the breast bone, but with a good, strong leg, a good width between the legs, and a wide back: the longer the body the better.

Naturally, we Americans agree that the best breeds to obtain our desires are the White Wyandottes, Plymouth Rocks and the Rhode Island Reds. In them we find the ideal bodies, the ideal sizes, the ideal color of skin, and, in fact, all the requisites to cater to the general American buyers. In this country we demand a medium size, yellow skin, short, plump bodies. Our breeds were built accordingly.

On the other hand, the French praise the Houdans, the LaFleche and the LaBresse fowls; and the English pin their faith to Orpingtons and the Dorkings. They are ideal fowls for their requirements.

In market quotations are made "Philadelphia roasters," the "soft roasters" of New England; and the English markets quote the "Dorking" or the "Sussex" for the best trade in their country. They all have a meaning. They refer to a class of table poultry not common in the rural districts, and not too plentiful in densely populated centers, even when the highest prices are offered.

Some years ago a writer in Country Gentleman said the term "Philadelphia roaster" was given to the highest type of roasting fowls in the Philadelphia commission houses. These were largely grown in the poultry districts of New Jersey (South Jersey), and sent to New York and Philadelphia markets as special brands at highest prices.

The "soft roaster" grew into prominence through careful handling by experts throughout New England, where even capons are at times sold as roasting fowls, or any kind and character of good quality can be disposed of at an equal value.

The New England roaster we have seen offered in the commission houses in New York. We imagine that their place of origin matters little if the quality is such as commands the highest prices.

Houdan, France, is the largest dressed poultry market in France. Houdans and their crosses are the prime favorites there, while in England the name "Sussex" is applied to all of the highest grades of poultry.

The quality of the Canadian poultry that goes to London is better than the American product, other than the specially fitted that are sent abroad. If the American people would give the same attention to growing poultry that is given to the production of the quality sent to London markets from Ireland, the quality produced about Sussex and in London, they would soon discover that their poultry products would be worth double as much in the markets as they had been before.

Comparing the selling of our poultry products in the market at from nine to fourteen cents with the selling of the "Philadelphia" and "soft roasters" for double these values, it seems that the same food, the same care and attention, only more of it, produce the better grades. It is possible for every single fowl sent to market to be of the better quality.

As before mentioned quality not only depends upon the condition of the carcass, but also upon the manner in which it reaches the consumer.

W. H. Rudd, of Boston, Mass., probably one of the oldest and most prominent poultry commission merchants in this country, in an address before the Rhode Island State Agricultural Board, said it is



Pair Exhibition Yokohama Fowls

During cold weather poultry can be shipped any day in the week, either by freight or express. It should be entirely cold, but not frozen, before it is packed. Boxes are the best packages. Line them with paper, and pack so closely that the contents can not move; but never use straw, and never wrap dressed poultry in paper. On the cover distinctly mark the kind and quality of the contents, the gross weight and correct tare in plain figures.

Yellow meated poultry is most appreciated in all markets. Stock should be plump, straight-breasted, well and cleanly picked, and neatly packed, to command the top market price.

The meat market in America consists of two classes—broilers and roasters. Broilers are divided into three classifications—squab broilers, small broilers and large broilers. Squab broilers, when dressed, weigh from three-quarters of a pound to one pound each; small broilers, the size most in demand the greater part of the year, weigh from one to one and a quarter pounds each, and large broilers from one and a half to two pounds each.

Fat broilers are not plentiful from the fact that all the nutriment of the food goes to growth and development. But they can be plump. Prof. G. Arthur Bell, assistant animal husbandman, Bureau of Animal Industry, says when the birds are nearly large enough for the market they should be given all the fattening food they will eat, and for this purpose corn in various forms should be fed freely. They will digest more feed if fed ground than if fed whole or cracked. A moistened mash containing about two-thirds cornmeal and one-third bran by bulk is good. Cooked potatoes are good, and milk, with a little sugar added, will hasten fattening.

Roasting fowls are classed as "small roasters" and "large roasters." A young fowl practically full grown, but still soft-meated, and moderately fat, finds a ready sale at good prices. These are known as "soft roasters" and will weigh four or five pounds each.

"Large roasters" should weigh eight or nine pounds, and the demand for these weights seems to be steadily increasing. In roasting fowls especially, yellow skin and yellow legs are more generally demanded than a white skin and dark legs.

Farmers' Bulletin, No. 287, says if the chickens have been properly grown and are in good healthy condition, about ten or twelve days' confinement in a pen and small yard, with fattening food, will put them in as good condition as is desirable. They should be dressed and packed according to market demands. Some of the whims of the buying public are indeed ridiculous, but at the same time it is a better business principle for the poultryman to cater to such notions than to try to argue the point with the customer. Those who pay the money should have the right to dictate in the matter.

The growing and marketing of roasting fowls is an important business in some parts of the country, especially in the vicinity of large cities. Near Boston, Mass., in what is known as the "South Shore" district, the production of roasters engages the attention of many people, several of whom make it an exclusive business.

G. C. Watson says a considerable proportion of the dressed poultry consigned to commission houses in large cities brings to the producer a much smaller profit than it would had the same poultry been dressed and packed for shipment with greater skill. It is of prime importance that the poultry products be placed on the market in a condition that will make them appear as inviting as possible. Proper feeding for two or three weeks before the fowls are slaughtered will improve their color materially.

The commission men and shippers, who study



Light Brahma Hen

in detail dressing and packing, state that uniformly fine quality will soon acquire a reputation among buyers. The shipper should always be careful to have the product look as neat as possible. In some of the large cities ordinances prohibit the sale of dressed poultry with food in their crops. In a few instances the sale of live poultry in coops which contain food is also prohibited. In all cases it is best to withhold food from twelve to twenty-four hours before killing, but the fowls should have plenty of water during this time, that they may be able to digest and assimilate food already consumed.

All fowls should be killed by cutting through the roof of the mouth and allowing them to bleed to death. In all operations of dressing avoid cutting or bruising the skin, or breaking bones. Care is required in the case of the heavy fowls in picking and handling to prevent bruising the skin.

It is generally conceded by farmers that their flocks of poultry yield them a fair profit, although any intelligent observer has but to spend a short time in investigating the great work to learn that poor methods of preparing and marketing alone prevent the producer from receiving much greater returns. Professor Stoneburn, of the Storrs College, says the majority of poultry raisers fail to realize that their profits could be largely increased, first, by the production of better and more uniform goods; and second, by improved methods of disposing of them.

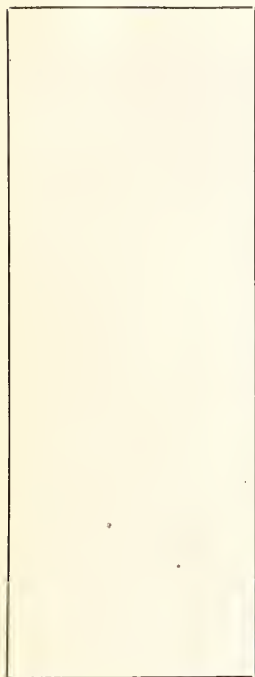
Not infrequently it is stated that high grade goods sell themselves; and in a sense this is true. However, if the most satisfactory prices are to be obtained throughout the season, the question of marketing must receive due consideration. It is not enough to turn out superior goods; much is lost if they are not marketed in the most careful manner. The poultryman who receives the highest quotations for his product throughout the year is the one who studies "how, when and where" to market. He learns that during certain months in each year there is a shortage of different kinds of poultry products, and he plans to produce as large a quantity as possible of these products during the season of scant supply. He then ascertains in which markets he can dispose of these goods to best advantage, and prepares and packs them according to the requirements of those markets.

recommended to shippers that no poultry, under the present existing laws, should be drawn or headed at any time: keep without food twelve hours, that the crop may be entirely empty; kill by bleeding in the mouth or neck and pick clean; but never attempt to stick poultry in the mouth unless familiar with that method of killing, for if not properly done they will only half "bleed out" and when picked the blood will follow every feather, giving the bird a bad appearance and rendering it almost unsalable. Never stun them by pounding on the back, as it causes the blood to settle, and injures the sale. Always dry-pick and never scald any poultry, as it will not bring half prices in New England markets.

In years past the Massachusetts law required all dressed poultry sold or exposed for sale within the State to have the head and entrails removed, and also the crop when containing any food. This law, except that portion relating to the crop, is at present repealed. Custom, however, which is quite as exacting in New England as law, has required during the fall months that fowls, chickens and turkeys should be drawn and headed. This custom, however, is passing away, and, with the exception of turkeys from Vermont and New Hampshire during Thanksgiving week, few lots of poultry are dressed in this manner.

Strong, sound barrels are best for ice packing, and the ice should be washed before using. Place a good layer of broken ice in the bottom of the barrel, then a layer of poultry, beginning in the middle and packing in a circle, with heads down, backs up, and feet toward the center; then alternate layers of ice and poultry, filling the barrel to within six inches of the top, taking care to have ice between the poultry and the staves of the barrel; top off with large pieces of ice, and cover the barrel with bagging (which insures its being kept right side up), and mark with a brush or stencil. If shipped from considerable distance, put an extra large piece of ice on top, and if properly packed the poultry can be on the road fifty hours without injury.

Always ship poultry by express in warm weather.



One of the 32 Houses Which Will Be the Home of the 640 Hens Contesting in the National Egg-Laying Contest at the Missouri Poultry Experiment Station

The International Egg-Laying Contest

A. M. POLLARD

FOR the past six weeks every pen in the contest at the Connecticut Agricultural College, Storrs, Conn., has been shelling out eggs in grand style, and making new records, which will be very hard for the birds in any other contest to beat. Judge Frederick Peasley, of Cheshire, Conn., has an interesting pen of S. C. W. Leghorns in the contest. These names appear on the owners' leg bands: Lena, Hazel, Julia, Helen and Maud. Perhaps the Judge has them named so that if any dispute should arise over their records, they would be easily subpoenaed to appear before his honor and have matters straightened out at once.

The Stoneburn Broody Coop has just been installed in all the houses, and at the first signs of broodiness on the part of any bird, in she goes to the broody coop. Usually forty-eight hours is enough to cure any broody bird, and they are released and go right to laying again, which speaks pretty well for this broody coop.

There are just 490 birds in the contest, and at the present they are averaging about 325 eggs per day. The writer has been asked a great many times how it is we get so many eggs in the cold weather. He will tell you that Prof. F. H. Stoneburn, the supervisor, and he himself have always insisted that the birds should eat at least as much dry mash as they do whole grain, and to bring about this order of things, they close the Norwich grain feeders until late in the afternoon, but the dry mash is before them all the time. This is what produces the eggs, combined with the best of care. This mash contains ground oats, corn meal, bran, middlings, gluten, fish scraps, beef scraps and ground bone.

Some of the birds still continue to lay two eggs a day, just recently a White Wyandotte pullet, owned by the Woodside Poultry Farm, of Philadelphia, Pa., performed the feat this time. Her

first egg was laid about 9 a. m. and the second was laid about 2:30 p. m., the hen being trap nested both times, and both eggs being collected by the same man, Assistant J. H. Austin. The largest and heaviest egg laid during the past week was by Wood's Lane Poultry Farm, Leaman Place, Pa. This egg weighed 24-100 of a pound or nearly four ounces.

The wire fencing for the yards is to be stretched this week, and is being put up by the American Steel Wire Co. This fencing is five feet high, with two single wires four inches apart on top. All the parts used are hollow steel, and are made to last.

The English pen of S. C. W. Leghorns still leads in total number of eggs laid to date. At the end of the fourteenth week, pen No. 45, R. C. R. I. Reds, owned by E. S. Edgerton, West Willington, Conn.; Pen No. 43, S. C. R. I. Reds, owned by J. A. Fritchey, Harrisburg, Pa., and Pen No. 93, Buff Orpingtons, owned by O. Wilson, Carlisle, W. Va., were all tied for first position, each pen laying 26 eggs. Pen No. 63, S. C. W. Leghorns, owned by F. G. Yost, Sayre, Pa., was second with 24 eggs, and Pen No. 35, S. C. R. I. Reds, owned by Brother Wilfred, Inst. Agricole, La Trappe, Que., Can., was third, laying 23 eggs.

The fifteenth week the pen winning had to keep busy nearly every day to carry off the honors, which went to Pen No. 43, S. C. R. I. Reds, owned by J. A. Fritchey, Harrisburg, Pa., having laid 29 eggs; Pen No. 93, Buff Orpingtons, owned by O. Wilson, Carlisle, W. Va., was second, with 28 eggs, and third pen for the week was No. 91, Buff Orpingtons, owned by Barr and Skattowe, Mt. Orchard Poultry Farm, Marvon, Pa., this pen laying 25 eggs.

The sixteenth week is the record so far, Pen No. 93, Buff Orpingtons, owned by O. Wilson, Carlisle, W. Va., having laid 31 eggs out of a possible 35. The second pen for the week was not far behind, being No. 15, White Plymouth Rocks,

owned by Hans Lobert, Pittsburg, Pa., who is a ball player on the Philadelphia Nationals. This pen laid 29 eggs; Pen No. 37, S. C. R. I. Reds, owned by Arthur Evans, Colonial Farms, Temple, N. H., was third, laying 27 eggs.

The seventeenth week the average is the about the same as the week previous. Pen No. 96, S. C. W. Orpingtons, owned by L. O. Keeton, Brookland, D. C., won first position, having laid 29 eggs; Pen No. 37, S. C. R. I. Reds, owned by Arthur Evans, Colonial Farms, Temple, N. H., was second, with 28 eggs, and Pen No. 35, S. C. R. I. Reds, owned by Brother Wilfred, Inst. Agricole, La Trappe, Que., Can., was third, laying 27 eggs.

The eighteenth week a dark horse shows up. Pen No. 39, S. C. R. I. Reds, owned by Arnold Francis, Oaks, Pa., won first honors, having laid 28 eggs; two pens were tied for second place, No. 24, White Wyandottes, owned by Woodside Poultry Farm, Philadelphia, Pa., and No. 91, Buff Orpingtons; each laid 27 eggs. Pens No. 10, Barred Rocks; No. 11, Barred Rocks; No. 14, White Rocks; No. 15, White Rocks; No. 17, White Rocks; No. 36, S. C. R. I. Reds; No. 74, S. C. W. Leghorns, No. 92, Buff Orpingtons, and No. 96, S. C. W. Orpingtons, were all tied for third place, each having laid 26 eggs.

All the game men in the country should be interested at the result of the nineteenth week, as a pen of Dark Cornish Games, owned by John W. Ward, Pennington, N. J., was first, with 30 eggs; the second pen was S. C. R. I. Reds, owned by Arthur Evans, Colonial Farms, Temple, N. H., having laid 29 eggs; third pen, White Plymouth Rocks, owned by W. J. Tilley, Packersville, Conn., 28 eggs.

A short time ago a S. C. R. I. Red owned by Howard Steel, Philadelphia, Pa., died suddenly and on examination it was found that she had two perfect oviducts, which in a way may account for a hen laying two eggs in one day.

NOTE.—This Chart will be published each Month in The Feather during the year. Keep a correct record of your birds each month.

TIMELY TOPICS

By PLUMMER McCULLOUGH.

In his "Standard Poultry Topics from Overseas," W. M. Elkington, of England, discusses the bleaching question quite thoroughly in the February American Poultry World. Mr. Elkington says:

"Personally I have little faith in these bleaching rumors and I argue that if this bleaching was general we should see more white birds than we do. I write as a breeder and judge of another white variety—the White Wyandottes—which can give the Orpingtons some points in color in spite of their yellow legs. Indeed, it is one of the most remarkable facts I have come across that in spite of the yellow pigment in the White Wyandottes we can breed birds with blue skin and snow white plumage much more easily than the Orpington people do. We never hear any talk about bleaching White Wyandottes. They don't need it, even if it is possible, and the only kind of bleaching we indulge in is ordinary sun bleaching."

We have been wondering how many of our very top breeders in America can say they never used any kind of bleaching except sun bleaching. It is my opinion that some of our American breeders of White Wyandottes use more than sun bleaching, especially on some birds. Some birds do not need it, as Mr. Elkington says, but that can not be said of all of our birds in America. We have always noticed that our very "chalk white" or "dead white" birds were nearly always a little pale in leg color. In fact, I believe I can usually tell whether a White Rock is strictly sound in color or not by simply looking at the legs and let the plumage of the bird be covered and not be shown at all. This is a pretty broad statement, I know, and of course I am not saying that it will always work, but how often we seen a bird that is almost perfect in whiteness and has very pale legs. On the other hand, we often see birds that have rich, yellow legs, but are very creamy and brassy sometimes in color.

The Orpingtons seem to be an exception to this rule. When the White Orpingtons first came out I remember saying to a friend that they should be easy to breed true to color, as their white legs and skin would not interfere with getting pure white plumage, as the yellow legs and skin of the Rocks and Wyandottes did. This so far has not been true. The White Orpington males that show no color are rather scarce and the ones that are strictly white command high prices. It is my belief, however, that when the Orpingtons are once established in color they will breed very true in this respect. There yet remains lots of room for improvement with the Orpingtons as well as all other white varieties.

Regarding this bleaching, it is time that breeders know whether it is right to bleach or not to bleach. According to the Standard, it is wrong to bleach. But some of our best judges put the ribbons up on bleached birds. If it is right for one breeder to bleach it should be right for all. Many of the small breeders are crowded out on this account. They don't know how to get that peculiar whiteness. Anyhow, the whole thing should be stopped, as it puts the prize on the best conditioner and not on the best breeder, and this should not be.

In the Poultry Times an inquirer writes: "Quite often I would find a little duck on its back dead. I find a good many this way. Can you tell me why?" M. A. Dartt, who conducts the Turkey and Duck Department, answers as follows:

"Cold drinking water sometimes chills little ducks and gives them convulsions. They fall over on their backs, struggle awhile and die. If you are on hand you can sometimes brood them back to warmth. Guard against this by warming their drinking water for the first three weeks."

Duck raisers who have been thus bothered will do well to remember this. We have known of many ducklings lost just in this way and if it can be so easily prevented it is worth a trial.

In the February number of Poultry is published the record of "Lady Cornell," a White Leghorn hen, which laid 257 eggs in 12 months, averaging in weight 1.83 ounces each and having a total weight of 29½ pounds. This little hen weighed only 3.21 pounds, which would make her year's output of eggs run 9.2 pounds of eggs for each pound of live weight. This remarkable hen is doing great laying in her second year also. She is owned by the Cornell Poultry Department and was fed the regular "Cornell ration," as follows: By measure, 32 quarts wheat, 36 quarts corn, 30 quarts oats, 20 quarts buckwheat. This mixture is fed in the litter in the winter months and during the summer the ration is the same, only the buckwheat is dropped entirely. In addition to this the following dry mash is fed in hoppers: 60 pounds corn meal, 60 pounds middlings, 30 pounds bran, 10 pounds alfalfa meal, 10 pounds oil meal, 50 pounds beef scraps, 1 pound salt. This is an excellent variety of food and will make any hen lay if there is any lay to her.

R. C. Lawry has an interesting article in R. P. J. on "Methods That Will Insure Successful Hatches." Mr. Lawry is manager of Yesterlaid Egg Farm, which has 3,000 laying Leghorns, and is good authority. He says: "First of all the breeding stock should be vigorous and rugged. Outdoor exercise in winter when it is not too cold and the hen's feet will not become wet and muddy is 'life insurance' (or accident insurance) against infertile eggs."

This may be nothing new. In fact, I know it is not, but it is the truth and just what I have been preaching to you in these columns month after month, especially about the breeding stock being healthy and rugged. It is good advice and needs more than a passing glance.

In the Poultry Item H. W. Halbach has an article on the breeding and mating of White Rocks that is very sensible, to say the least. Mr. Halbach, though a Western breeder, does not have much time for the score card, judging from his article. He writes: "I wish to state that those who have or are using score cards to assist in mating up their pens of White Rocks or any other variety for that matter, should make a bonfire of them, so that he will not be tempted to place an inferior high scoring bird in a pen just on account of the score. As long as any breeder uses the score card in mating he will be a back number. Score

cards are worthless and I firmly believe retard the greater development of fancy birds. Some of our leading national judges now refuse to work with the score card in placing awards and I trust other judges will soon be following them. When we no longer have the score card breeders will study their own birds and thus progress at a greater rate."

This is a pretty hard knock for the score card from a leading breeder. Nevertheless it is true. If the score card is correct a "high scoring inferior bird" could not be possible. Still we see just such birds occasionally and these, with other reasons, make us favor comparison judging for the future as we have in the past.

In the American Poultry Advocate, Rev. Edgar Warren writes: "The thought has been suggested to me by a letter from a correspondent that if a man could originate a strain of White Wyandottes or Barred Rocks laying white eggs he would make a fortune. As it is now, these varieties are bred for brown eggs and the demand for brown eggs is confined chiefly to New England, and New England is but a little corner on the map. Now, if a man could originate a strain of Barred Rocks or White Wyandottes that would lay a white shelled egg and at the same time have rich yellow legs and skin, the demand would be immense. It does not seem to me an impossible thing to do."

In the American Poultry World Fred. C. Gabriel has an article on the "Two Hundred Egg Hen," in which he says: "Remember that the meat of a black chicken is just as good as the meat of a white one. Could you tell when you ate your pork chops whether it was from a black hog or a white one? Black legs, blue legs, white legs are each and all as good as yellow legs. You don't eat them anyhow." This, in a sense, is true, and I believe it applies more forcibly to white and brown eggs than it does to fowls. I don't think it necessary to originate a strain of white egg Barred Rocks or White Wyandottes as Mr. Warren suggests. How would they be any better? What would be gained? Absolutely nothing. What we do need is to knock this prejudice against brown eggs so far it will never come back. Why do white eggs command higher prices than brown eggs? Are they better? Not a bit. Do they look better? Some may think they do, but when you put a basket of rich brown eggs alongside of a basket of white ones I fail to see where the white eggs are any more attractive.

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PLUMMER McCULLOUGH

Box F

Mercer, Pa.

Just why the white eggs command a better price than the brown I don't know, but I do know that it should not be. They are not worth a mite more than the brown eggs and if there is any difference, the brown eggs should be worth the most, as they will average larger than white eggs. This talk about white eggs being worth more makes me sick and I hope to see it meet its doom in the near future. Of course, I believe in the proper grading of eggs. White, brown, green and speckled eggs should not be all dumped together, but when properly graded, a case of good rich, fresh brown eggs are worth every cent as much as a case of pure white ones.

D. Lincoln Orr don't think much of taking subscriptions at reduced prices. In R. P. J. he says: "There is another thing that does not seem right and that is the taking of subscriptions at shows for 25 cents. It is not just to the person who in good faith sends in his 50 cents when his neighbor, who happens to be at the show, gets it for 25 cents. Make it 50 cents straight, editors, unless you have a 50-cent paper." There is a lot of truth and common sense in the above. We hear no more of the Poultry Press Associations. Why? Is it because the members could not live up to the mark? Now, if a paper is only worth 25 cents at shows it is not worth more at any other time. It is not a square deal to charge one set 25 cents and another 50 cents, and like Mr. Orr, I think it should be worth 50 cents or else 25 cents. Make it the same at all times and to all people.

We have just been to a neighbor who has a few Silver Spangled Hamburgs, and we just thought what an opportunity there is for some one to climb up to the top in any of the varieties in this good little breed. They are certainly little beauties and when it comes to laying eggs there are few that can beat them. I. K. Felch says a Golden Spangled Hamburg hen is equal to any variety for eggs, and I believe other varieties of the breed are little behind them. I would risk one of these varieties today before I would some of the newer breeds. They are better. There is considerable talk about Hamburgs being unhealthy. While this is true in some flocks because of in and in-breeding, it is not exactly true of the breed. The few fowls that I have just looked at are as healthy a bunch as I have seen for some time and I think this could easily be overcome. I am a good friend of the Hamburgs and hope to see the day when they will be more popular.

Get the breeding stock out on the ground from now on as much as possible. It means more fertile eggs and stronger chicks. Talk as you please, but it is natural for a fowl to be out on the bare ground and the closer we get to nature the better results we will have.

People are crazy to get early hatches this year, and as this is a very cold spring, I believe the early hatches will be more or less of a failure. It is a mistake to think that May and June are too late to set hens. Some of the very best birds we ever raised were hatched in June and July. May and June are the natural hatching months and chicks can be raised easier these two months than any other.

There are less turkeys kept on the average farm today than there were ten years ago. At least this is true in our own neighborhood. Turkeys are

delicate things to get started, but for a side line they pay well if properly cared for on a farm. Good, vigorous breeders one or two years old are best. Another thing, turkeys must have range and do little good penned up.

On the publishers' page of the January number of Profitable Poultry, of Boston, we read the following: "Three things only are needed for successful poultry keeping—the birds, a subscription to Profitable Poultry, and common sense." Surely here is a cheap start. Of course you will not need any houses, coops, feed or any of these things. Just the three named. Then will come success—or possibly failure. Personally I don't think success is reached quite so easily and I believe it takes years of hard work many times before the goal is reached.

Profitable Poultry does contain lots of common sense reading, however. In the same number of this journal A. B. Bush has an article on feeding for heavy laying and fertility. Mr. Bush says: "There is no heavy laborious work in poultry keeping, but there are a multitude of minor details, each important in its own way, and anyone who can not attend to them had better leave the business for some calling for which he is better fitted."

Truer words than these were never written regarding poultry keeping. There are many little things to look after that seemingly do not amount to much, such as cleaning houses, keeping hoppers filled, feeding regularly, watering, mating, keeping records, looking out for the comfort and health of the flock at all times. Let these be neglected and you will soon be on the road to failure. Look after the little things, they are especially important.

International Association of Poultry Instructors and Investigators

The growth of the poultry industry in nearly every country of the world during recent years has been phenomenal. From being, with a few exceptions, a by-product of the farm, of small value, and regarded with indifference or totally neglected, the various races of poultry have proved a source of profit to agriculturists for eggs and poultry, the prices for which have been increased very largely. An estimate has been made that the annual value of the world's poultry crop exceeds one billion two hundred and fifty million dollars, and is rapidly advancing.

As a result of these developments, though they are, to a greater extent than is commonly supposed, due to educational and experimental work, there has been of late years a considerable amount of attention given by the various ministries of agriculture, colleges and experiment stations in different countries to the teaching of and experimental work in connection with poultry-keeping. The problems which necessarily follow increase and intensification of production are commanding the services of trained investigators and instructors, and the work which is being done is of great value. That this will rapidly advance is unquestionable.

Such developments have been most marked in the United States. Four years ago the Poultry Instructors and Investigators of the United States and Canada formed an association for mutual cooperation and interchange of observations and experience. The last meeting was held at Orono, Me., in August, 1911, at which a resolution was adopted in favor of an association embracing such workers in all the countries of the world, the number of which

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is already considerable. It was felt that by focusing the knowledge and experience of all, the power of each would be greatly enhanced.

As a result of this action a provisional committee has been formed, consisting of representatives of the respective countries. The following have agreed to serve on this committee:

Dominion of Canada—Prof. W. R. Graham, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph; Mr. F. C. Elford, formerly at Macdonald College.

England—Edward Brown, F. L. S., Hon. Sec. National Poultry Organization Society; Prof. F. V. Theobald, M. A., Wye, Kent; C. E. J. Walkey, Esq., Hon. Sec. British Association of Poultry Instructors and Investigators.

Scotland—Prof. Wil Brown, Kilmarnock.

Ireland—Percy A. Francis, Esq., Knock, Belfast.

Australia—Mr. D. F. Laurie, Government Poultry Expert, Adelaide.

Tasmania—Mr. R. J. Terry, Poultry Expert to the Tasmanian Government, Hobart.

South Africa—Prof. J. E. Duerden, Rhodes, University College, Grahamstown; Mr. Reginald Bourlay, in charge of Poultry Experiment Station, Potchefstroom, Transvaal.

India—Mr. A. C. Dobbs, Assistant Inspector General of Agriculture.

Germany—Direktor Dr. Alfred Beeck, Zentral-Geflügelzuchtanstalt, Halle-Crollwitz; Prof. Dr. Heinrich Poll, University of Berlin.

Holland—Herr H. B. Beaufort, Aerdenhout.

Belgium—Mons. M. van Gelder, Uccle.

Denmark—Konsulent W. A. Kock, Copenhagen.

Norway—Lieut. Col. B. Thams, Christiania.

Italy—Signor Alfredo Vitale, Naples.

United States—Prof. James E. Rice, Cornell University; Prof. Leon J. Cole, University of Wisconsin; Dr. Raymond Pearl, Maine Experiment Station.

Others will be added in due course.

Arrangements are being made for holding the first meeting of the Provisional Committee in London, July 18 to 24, 1912, at which it is anticipated that the most representative international gathering of poultry teachers and investigators ever held will as-

BABY CHICKS

FROM STANDARD BRED WINNERS AT NEW YORK, CHICAGO, BOSTON, ST. LOUIS AND CLEVELAND. EGG RECORD 280. EVERY CHICK GUARANTEED. Bred White and Buff Rocks, Brown, White and Buff Leghorns, Black, White and Buff Orpingtons, White Wyandottes, R. I. Reds, Black Minorcas, Anconas, Baby I. R. Ducks. Safe arrival guaranteed. Price, 8c up.

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made of double walled air cell waterproof cardboard, covered with galvanized steel, guaranteed to last a life time. Price, \$3.00.

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JOHNSON'S OLD TRUSTY INCUBATOR

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Old Trusty Incubators and Brooders are made of finest California red wood—middle case of highest grade of asbestos—fire-proof insulation—out case, legs and all of galvanized metal; handsome, mottled finish. Guaranteed not to leak; cold rolled copper tank and heater can't warp, swell or open at seams; best thermometer; egg tester, trays, instruction book, ready to run. No worry, safety lamp on outside; regulator of the best. Every exclusive feature of The Old Trusty Incubator and Brooder are owned by Johnson, hence the low price on these high-grade machines. Guaranteed 75% better hatches. Send for our Big Book, gives information of practical poultry raising of 350,000 successful Old Trusty users, in addition to Johnson's practical knowledge and experience in raising poultry on a larger scale. Worth many dollars to you, tells you how you can buy a 120-egg incubator and a 100 chick brooder for less than \$15.00. You need this book whether you buy or not. Send 10 cents, to help pay postage, to HARRY D. MOORE, State Sales Mgr., 1829 Baker St., Baltimore, Md.

semble. The sessions will be held in the Council Room of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, 16 Bedford Square, London W.

By vote the members of the Provisional Committee have elected Mr. Edward Brown, F. L. S., Hon. Sec. of the National Poultry Organization Society of England, as the first president of the International Association. Dr. Raymond Pearl, Biologist of the Agricultural Experiment Station, Orono, Me., is acting as honorary secretary pro tem.

No Affidavits

"Do you furnish affidavits with your eggs, showing exactly the minute they were laid?" said the fussy lady.

"No, ma'am, we do not," replied the marketman, politely. "We tried to furnish such affidavits, but the hens positively refused to sign 'em."

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PRACTICAL TURKEY CULTURE.

How One Man Began Operations and How He Succeeded — Sunshine and Shadow — Other Beginners.

Editor The Feather:

As a lad of eight my acquaintance with the king of American game birds began. It was my task to give a pint of corn morning and evening to an immense black gobbler, fattening him for Christmas dinner. Uncle George had won more turkeys at the numerous shooting matches held in his neighborhood than he cared to eat, and had given one to father who carried it home over his shoulder a distance of twenty-five miles over our rough Pennsylvania hills. Ah! they were men in those days and such a jaunt was considered nothing more than a nice half day's walk. That big gobbler gave me much concern, for on a very cold, stormy morning he would refuse to come down to eat, and if dislodged with a pole would fly to the top of the house and stay there the balance of the day. I did not know then that in bad weather it is natural for turkeys to stay on their roosts two or three days at a time. But when the eventful day arrived and the turkey was killed we found him "fat as butter and plump as a dumpling." After feasting upon this turkey I had forgotten all about the difficulties of feeding on stormy days and resolved to raise turkeys myself the next summer. But it was years afterwards, when I had grown to manhood and had read the agricultural and poultry magazines, that I had learned something of the great size and other fine qualities of the pure breeds before I started to realize the dream of my boyhood days.

The start was made with eggs; they cost four dollars for one dozen and all proved infertile, which made a clear loss to me and the boom in turkey culture temporarily collapsed. But in time another dozen was purchased, costing two dollars, and these eggs hatched. I had at once visions of roast turkey for Thanksgiving and Christmas. There were many slips between May and November and the flock of poults finally dwindled down to one—a little gobbler that ran about the yard and house, a privileged character. It was amusing to see him "shoot flies" with the quick thrust of his beak. He escaped with sound limbs the numerous close calls to death and eventually developed into a fine twenty-pound bird, the wonder of the community, where previously a ten-pound gobbler was a good one.

Three fine large hens were purchased and mated with this part wild gobbler and from this little beginning many thousands of dollars' worth of stock was grown during the next ten years.

The young man and his brothers found that with intelligent care there were no good reasons why every farmer in the land could not grow a fine flock of poults. Numbers of persons started in the business who realized goodly sums of money from the annual sale of Christmas turkeys. Start this spring with a few eggs—nine, twelve or eighteen—or a pair or trio of fowls. Eggs cost less money, but the trio will raise the larger flock. All pocketbooks can be suited in this matter. The main thing is to start, and if at the outset you only succeed in growing a Thanksgiving and Christmas roast and have a trio left to breed from another year you will feel amply rewarded for your trouble. If you make a great success and your flocks are large there will be just as large an unsatisfied demand for turkeys this coming winter as there was last, perhaps larger, for if our Presidential candidate wins, naturally we think times will be brighter at once; that is certain. If your man wins we will fall back upon a good roast turkey with oyster dressing to drown sorrow and help bear our grief. And both you and I will eat it together if the other fellow's man sweeps the field and goes in with a big hurrah. We pity the child who knows not what Christmas means and we pity the family who has never had for a center piece a roasted turkey. There must be one apiece for each family before a deadly blow can be struck at the feeling that the good things of life are solely for the rich or very rich.

Neighbor Scholl had hundreds of fine Bronze turkeys and herded them like sheep are herded in the hilly country. He set his hens on eighteen or twenty eggs each and they usually hatched off with that number of poults. Where there is no disease and where the turkey's natural enemies are held in the background it is no uncommon thing to see a turkey hen with a flock of eighteen or twenty poults after her. A boy or girl, or the "old man himself" can soon train the flock where they are permitted to roam and when that is done the rest is easy. To shut them up securely at night and let them out in the morning and give them a good breakfast is a small job. Once a week the coop can be thoroughly cleansed of all filth and fresh earth scattered on the floor. We dust for lice, spray or scrub for mites, use wire netting against minks, weasels, foxes, etc.; shoot and scare away crows, hawks and owls, and large enemies are given to understand that the turkeys must not be bought at night, when no man looketh.

Put wise the simple, is a commendable task, although it is often a thankless one. Once upon a time the writer saved a man four hundred dollars on a hen coop and he was glad—but the contractor was not, but that just broke even. And again, when he told another who had unbounded faith in humanity's honesty that it was as a rule not proper or good business to

show his stack of "long green," and demand what could be bought there, with in the shape of fancy fowls, the second one thought us pessimistic and soured by hard rubs against the world. But I will risk saying here, even if I offend the wee new ones and greedy old ones, that a very few dollars are all that it is wise for the beginner to invest in breeding stock or eggs for hatching. The success of the venture is in no measure enhanced by "going it big" and if failure ensues it makes only a larger and deeper sore spot. In truth, half the failure comes from inflation and the other half from not knowing how and when to do the right thing.

The beginner needs to learn how to raise turkeys first. Certainly he should learn to grow good ones, and I would not have him be satisfied with scrubs. But for much less than a handful of money, he can get strong, healthy, pure-bred fowls properly mated to produce good young, that if properly grown will be a credit to any farm. It may be left to the man or woman with "money to burn" to buy fowls and eggs worth their weight in gold. They have their place in the economy of nature if only as a sort of comic inspiration to some breeders to strike it rich on, and, at any rate, if it is thrown away by shovelfuls, that is better than hoarding it.

A good old hen—Brahma, Cochin, Java, Langshan, or barnyard blue—just anything, so she is broody; a nest in some safe place where she will not be molested; nine to twelve eggs, according to size of eggs and hen, and the trick is done. Five dollars will cover all needed expense. Nine, ten or a dozen poults will greet you in twenty-six to twenty-eight days. They are little beauties, aren't they? And they will soon grow so large that only one will go in that bonnet. After a little while you can stand up and feed the largest gobbler out of your hand, and when Christmas comes I would not be surprised if the buyer offered you thirty dollars for the ten birds, which you promptly refused.—Geo. Enty.

With the Hen Fakers

[Canal Dover (Ohio) Dispatch to New York American.]

A glass nest egg, which it had swallowed, proved the undoing of a 6-foot black snake, preventing it from making its escape through the crack by which it had entered the chicken coop of Mrs. Charles Moreland, at Leesville. Mrs. Moreland killed the reptile, which was unable to crush the egg, and the egg was too big to go through the crack.

[Beverly, N. J.]

Howard Wills, an extensive poultry grower of Willingboro, near here, has adopted a novel plan to call his fowls to meals, that of the ringing of a dinner

Sanogerm

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is for cleansing the poultry house, incubators, brooders, coops, drinking vessels, etc., and is a Sure exterminator of lice, mites and vermin of all kinds. For household purposes Sanogerm is unsurpassed.

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tell. No matter where they may be on the extensive field, the chickens will fly toward him at the sound of the bell. Benjamin Atkinson, of Burlington Township, summons his birds by pounding on a triangle, and both men find their plans very saving of lung power.

When writing our Advertisers please mention The Feather.

Record in National Egg-Laying Contest

The record in the National Egg-Laying Contest at Mountain Grove, Mo., for February was a very gratifying. A total of 6,442 eggs were laid in the 29 days, which was double that of the previous month, and more than one-half of the grand total for the previous three months. The grand total to March 1 was 17,845 eggs.

During this month the Single Comb Reds went from second to first place, and now head the list, the leading pen having 310 eggs to its credit. The Black Orpingtons, which have been leading for three months dropped back one notch, and the Buff Orpingtons and Silver Wyandottes tied them for second place, each of these three pens of fine hens having 309 eggs to their credit, each pen being only one egg behind the leading pen in the contest. White Wyandottes moved from eighth to sixth place. Barred Plymouth Rocks and White Leghorns have moved up until they are among the ten leading varieties of the thirty-nine varieties competing for places in the contest.

The highest individual records made at the close of the fourth month are as follows:

No.	Eggs
346—S. C. Red, Mrs. Emma Powers	96
402—Silver Wyandotte, G. C. Grant	89
79—R. C. W. Leghorn, C. E. Cronhardt	86
541—White Orpington, A. M. Robertson	86
883—White Orpington, Dr. Thos. Dietrich	85
545—White Orpington, A. M. Robertson	83
821—Cornish Indian, Peter Erickson	83
888—Columbian Plymouth Rock, Clyde Patterson	82
315—S. C. Reds, W. J. Ward	80
790—Silver Wyandotte, V. G. Warner	78
401—Silver Wyandotte, G. C. Grant	78
572—R. C. Reds, M. L. Puckett	77
373—Buff Orpington, Miss S. C. Fellows	77
863—Black Orpington, E. A. Berg	75
525—Silver Wyandotte, Jacob Miller	75

Winter still hangs on and will go on record as one of the most severe and longest cold spells ever experienced in this section of the country. We have had to confine the hens too much of the time and during the past month had a snow two feet deep on the level, and it has not disappeared up to the present time. The weather has not been conducive to high egg production, but, on the other hand, has made the work unusually difficult. Despite these facts, the hens in most pens have responded and given very satisfactory results.

Some criticism has been offered because we do not make our feed formula known. Perhaps some explanation is due, and in reply to this will say that it is not the custom of experiment stations to publish such facts until they have satisfied themselves that they have something which is dependable and of value to the farmer and poultry raiser. We have had to make slight changes in the feed from time to time for various reasons. We will be able to draw some conclusions by the end of the year and will possibly be in a position to give some facts with reference to feeding that will be of real value. But until we know that we have what we consider a good ration, we don't want to mislead any farmer or poultry raiser by publishing the ration in advance of that time. All of the facts will be published in bulle-

tin form at the close of the year. The results obtained and the facts which we have observed during the year and the conclusions which we are able to draw will be made public at that time. In the meantime, let's all cooperate for the good of the cause and wait with patience, trusting that the results of one of the first great contests ever undertaken in this country will result in some good to the great industry which we represent. Miss S. C. Fellows' pen, No. 118, Buff Orpingtons, won the Golden Egg Silver Cup for February, laying 107 eggs.

Effect of Corn on Color of Egg Yolks

The Maryland station recently concluded experiments to determine the effect of corn on the color of the yolk of eggs. A flock of 120 Single Comb White Leghorns were divided into three lots of 40 each and were housed and cared for alike except that one pen received its whole grain in the form of corn; another in the form of wheat, and the third received a mixture of corn and wheat. All pens were allowed free access to narrow yards which furnished a very limited amount of green stuff. All the eggs laid by these pens were saved and, after boiling, were cut in half and placed in parallel rows for comparison. In every instance the eggs from the corn-fed lot showed yolks with a deep yellow color. Every egg from the corn-and-wheat-fed lot had a yolk of a good yellow color, while with but three exceptions the eggs from those fed wheat had yolks of a very pale yellow color. The three exceptions can probably be accounted for by some of the hens getting green food from the yards. An other test was made subsequently with white corn and the yolks were a very pale yellow.

As a result of the tests it was concluded that yellow corn, when fed to hens in the proportion of 9 parts corn to 12 parts mash, gives a very deep yellow color to the yolk. Yellow corn, when fed to hens in the proportion of 4½ parts corn to 16½ parts of other foods, gives a noticeable yellow tint. Wheat, when fed in the same proportions, does not give any yellow color to the eggs, and white corn is no better than wheat, so far as furnishing a tint to the yolk is concerned.

Use Only the Best

Don't breed from any birds that do not come up to the standard of quality. The breeders should be the best obtainable, and should be strong, vigorous and full of life and stamina. Birds that are deficient should never be used, and all cripples, undersized, puny birds should be discarded. If like begets like, you want the best. Make this your rule and live up to it.

ANCONA FOWLS

In the Front Rank of Profitable Poultry ::

Beautiful, Lively, Small Eaters, Mature Early, Pullets Lay when Sixteen Weeks Old, Great Winter Layers, Eggs White and Large, Big Demand for Stock and Eggs.

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PLYMOUTH ROCKS

BEECH BANK BARRED ROCKS. EGGS for hatching from carefully selected stock. \$1 per 15; \$5 per 100. Mary F. Sewall, Forest Glen, Md.

WYANDOTTES

"REGAL" WHITE WYANDOTTES "DUSTON." Direct from Martin. Stay white. Chicks: 20 cents; 100, \$15. Eggs: 15, \$1.50; 50, \$4; 100, \$6. Elwood Taylor, Berwyn, Md.

WYANDOTTES — BOYD'S WASHINGTON Strain of Black Wyandottes are still winning. Stock and eggs for sale. Write for circular and prices. Geo. H. Boyd, 1255 Morse St. N. E., Washington, D. C.

WYANDOTTES—STOCK AND EGGS TO sell from winners of White Wyandottes at Washington. Warrenton, Richmond, etc. Circular giving winnings and prices sent on request. W. W. Thomas, Catlett, Va.

1,000 PURE DUSTON WHITE WYANDOTTES, raised on 50-acre farm, 20 yards, mated for eggs. Get prices on your wants. Allen Sechrist, Port Trevorton, Pa.

LEGHORNS

BREEDING S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS. Exclusive eggs for sale. \$2 per 15, or \$5 per 100. Satisfaction guaranteed. John M. Yarger, Gilbertsville, Pa.

ROSE COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—WINNERS at Madison Square, Buffalo and Rochester. Mating list and circular. Eight grand pens. Box F, Howard J. Fisk, Falconer, N. Y.

SINGLE COMB WHITE LEGHORNS—(America's greatest business fowl). The 1912 matings are better than ever in color, shape and head points. Can not help but produce winners. Heavy layers of large, white eggs. \$2 a setting; 3 settings for \$5. Holiday Heights Poultry Farm, Sellersville, Pa.

WHITE ROCKS, WHITE AND BROWN Leghorns. Mating list free. Susquehanna Yards, Route 2, Wrightsville, Pa.

S. C. W. LEGHORNS—HEAVY LAYERS and vigorous stock. Eggs, \$2 per 50; \$3.50 per 100; \$15 for 500. John C. Beck, Middletown, Pa.

ROSE-COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—EGGS and baby chicks for sale. Send for my list of winnings. James G. Todd, Punxsutawney, Pa., Route 4.

ROSE-COMB BUFF LEGHORNS AND Columbian Wyandottes. Eggs for hatching. Stock for sale. Write to Harry A. Crumling, East Prospect, York Co., Pa.

ORPINGTONS

BLACK ORPINGTON WINNERS AT 7 shows this year, including Baltimore, Hagerstown, for sale. Also Whites. Eggs for hatching. R. D. Lillie, Takoma Park, D. C.

S. C. BUFF ORPINGTONS and R. I. Reds, one pen each, specially mated. Eggs, \$2 per 15. Hollis E. Cole, 80 Oak St. Florence, Mass.

ORPINGTONS—WHITE (BOTH COMBS) Single Comb Buff, Black. New York, Boston, Allentown, Hagerstown, Williamsport winners. Eggs. Baby chicks. Prices reasonable. Mating list free. Wm. Seidel, Box H, Washingtonville, Pa.

GENUINE KELLERSTRASS PEGGY—Crystal King Strain. Stock, eggs and baby chicks. Get my prices before buying. Write for mating list. J. R. Inskeep, Holly, Mich.

KELLERSTRASS STRAIN, WHITE ORPINGTONS. Eggs, \$1.50 per 15; \$7 per 100. Ed. Leclerc, Central City, Iowa.

ROSE COMB BUFF ORPINGTONS—Golden Strain. Great size, color and exhibition qualities. Eggs, \$3 and \$5 per setting. Booklet free. S. D. Lance, Troy, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND WHITES

RHODE ISLAND WHITES KRYSTAL Strain. Before placing orders send for our free, illustrated catalogue. It proves why Krystal strain is best. Bass Bros., Box 375, Marietta, N. Y.

RHODE ISLAND WHITES. EXCELLENT winter layers. Eggs from fine matings, \$2 per fifteen. Arthur J. Deex, Berea, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND REDS

YOU WILL NEED THE NEW RHODE Island Red Journal. Devoted to the Reds exclusively. Best advertising medium in the world for Red breeders. No waste circulation. Send 25c. now for full year's subscription to O. A. Studier, Editor, Readlyn, Iowa.

HIGHEST GRADE SINGLE-COMB REDS. Color and shape unsurpassed. Eggs at \$3 per setting of fifteen. Wistaria Poultry Farm, Northfield, Mass., Geo. R. Witte, Proprietor.

ROSE COMB REDS (DE GRAFF STRAIN). Eggs, \$2.50 per 15; also pairs and trios, tested breeders or young stock, very reasonable. Navarre Poultry Yards, Toledo, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND REDS—BOTH COMBS. From finely selected birds, heavy laying strain. Eggs, \$1 per 15, or \$5 per 100. Hugh Brinton, West Chester, Pa.

IF INTERESTED IN STRICTLY FINE, Prize Winning, Rose Comb, R. I. Reds, send postal for my 1912 mating list. You won't regret it. Highland Farm, Herbert M. Tucker, Owner, Canton, Me.

ANCONAS

ANCONAS—CINCINNATI AND COLUMBUS Ohio State Show, First Prize Winners. Stock, eggs, baby chicks. Write for free catalogue. Evans & Timms, Box W, Malta, Ohio.

SHENK'S ANCONAS LAID ALL THE Winter and laying now. Fifteen eggs, \$1.25; 30, \$2.25; 50, \$3.50. Thirty-six page poultry catalogue free. Clarence Shenk, Luray, Va.

BANTAMS

BANTAM SPECIALIST—BUFF, BLACK, Partridge Cochins and Light Brahmas. I ship on approval—circular free. Geo. C. Salmon, Port Dickinson, N. Y.

MOHAWK BANTAM YARDS. HIGH-Class. Exhibition Black Red and Red Pyle Games, Rose Comb Blacks, Partridge and Buff Cochins. Shipped on approval. Box B, Schenectady, N. Y.

JAPANESE, ROSE COMBS, FRIZZLES, Polish, Cochins, Silkies, Sultans. No circular. M. Hurd, Marshall, Mich.

BANTAMS, EGGS, 34 VARIETIES. SEND 2-cent stamp for circular. A. A. Penn, Box 92, Delavan, Wis.

Set Hens Early for Layers

A writer in Progressive Farmer says: "There is one thing certain, the early-hatched pullets are the money-makers. While I have been developing a strain of winter layers for several years, I have my foundation laid of early-hatched fowls. While the feeding has a good deal to do with it—for fowls must be fed and properly cared for to get results—they must also be developed before they can lay. A hen that goes to laying early will generally go to sitting early. I find this one thing to handicap the poultryman and fancier in selling eggs for hatching. So many can not get their hens to sit as early as they wish; therefore they wait until late in the spring and then set their hens on just any kind of eggs that come handy. Of course, this brings about more late pullets.

"I had hens sitting December 15 and from their broods I expect to get some very early layers. I always use hens to hatch and carry chickens for I believe beyond a doubt that hot-house chickens are more lazy than those carried and trained by old mother hen. Some one may take issue with me on this, but I can't help it.

"It has been demonstrated beyond a doubt that the propensity to lay early can be perpetuated from generation to generation by breeding from such stock. It takes time and patience, but it pays to do so. If one does not care to breed up, it would pay him well to get stock that has been bred for that purpose. But, I say again, set all the hens possible early. By so doing you will be getting eggs next winter when they are high."

The Sacred Goose

It was Frazier, of the Golden Bough, who suggested that the reverence felt for various creatures in all parts of the world is a survival of totemism. Since that time plenty of evidence has accumulated. Caesar mentions, as almost any schoolboy will recall, that the inhabitants of Britain might not eat of the hare, the cock and the goose. In the second case the superstition is quite lost, probably, but legendary records keep the memory of it in Ireland.

Of other examples, however, enough can be found even at the present day. At a place in Lancashire, England, there is held at times a "goose fair," so called, apparently, because goose is rigorously forbidden. It is even asserted that the inhabitants think the goose too sacred to eat—or did so not so long ago.

This same feeling about the goose ruled in the Hebrides and other parts of Scotland. Wherever Buddhism rules, the goose is venerated, therefore it is a leading motif in the art of Japan and a symbol of peace and happiness in China. Figures of geese are as indispensable at a Chinese wedding as is wedding cake with us. In both countries, as also in Burma and Siam, weights are made in the shape of a goose in token of good faith, although the connection is not obvious. But in ancient Egypt the same custom ruled, such weights being found among the first discoveries at Nineveh. A row of gigantic geese surrounds the great Buddhist temple at Anajapoor. The devout cherish a fond fancy that all geese perform an aerial pilgrimage to the holiest of lakes in the Himalayas every year, transporting the sins of the neighborhood, returning with a new stock of inspiration for the encouragement of local piety.

Few believe at the present day that

the Roman capital was saved by the quack of a goose, but if the story is not true, it becomes all the more significant in the folklorist's point of view as showing that the fowl was specially revered in the primitive age of Rome. The Crusaders under Walter the Peniless, some 400,000 souls, so it is claimed, piously followed a goose and a goat marching in the van. And what a mess those holy animals led them into! In Egypt the goose was the emblem of Seb, father to Osiris. A precious figure of it is extant inscribed, "The Good Goose Greatly Beloved."

Handling Eggs Through the Creamery

There are several other lines that might be enumerated, but handling eggs and manufacturing ice seem to be the most satisfactory in connection with a creamery.

Handling eggs has been found an ideal side line for the creamery when properly regulated. The teams that bring milk and cream to the creamery can also bring eggs produced by patrons, with practically no extra expense. In this way the creamery can secure the eggs at frequent intervals and under such restrictions as will insure their being absolutely fresh and of finest quality. It can also cool the eggs if necessary and market them in a manner that will secure a premium above the quoted prices for the finest grades. Statistics show that under ordinary conditions of marketing there is a great loss on account of poor eggs. There is also much dissatisfaction from the consumer for the same reason, but where the producer is made responsible for the quality and the creamery, with its facilities for handling them properly, is made the central market the consumer finally gets a grade of eggs for which he is willing to pay a high price.

The plan that has proved most successful is for the creamery to deliver egg cartons and a private stamp to each patron. The eggs are stamped, placed in the cartons, sealed as soon as gathered, and kept cool until delivered.

In securing a market for guaranteed fresh eggs through a creamery, patrons are usually pledged to comply with certain rules, and in case of failure to do so they are forbidden the privileges of the market. They usually agree to deliver eggs that are not over a specified number of days old and to gather them twice daily; to grade the eggs to secure uniform size; to keep white and brown eggs separate; to keep eggs clean and to store them in a cool, dry place; to stamp each egg and the carton in which they are placed; and not to sell eggs stamped with the creamery stamp to any other parties.

Prices received for eggs produced and marketed in this way usually range from 2 to 5 cents a dozen over the ruling price, and in some instances where special markets have been developed even greater premiums are secured. Doubtless many creameries can in this way improve their condition and secure closer cooperation with their patrons with little if any added expense.—Circular, Department of Agriculture.

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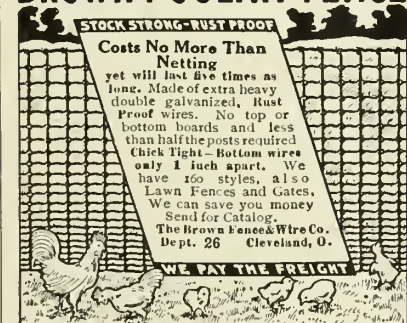
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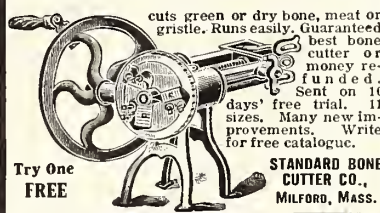
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WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mating the Breeding Pen

By PLUMMER McCULLOUGH

While it may seem a little late for this topic I believe that the average breeder, especially the small class of breeders, will not mate their pens till this month, and a few words will not be out of place along this line. To be frank, it is not child's work to properly mate a pen of fowls for best results. It is work and it takes time, study and experience to do the work right. Some people seem to think that mating up a breeding pen is simply the penning together of a certain number of females and a male bird and the work is done. This is a very wrong impression as this is hardly the beginning of the work. E. B. Thompson, the great breeder of "Ringlet" Barred Rocks, spent the greater part of six weeks mating up his breeding pens last year. Of course, Mr. Thompson had sixty-six pens, but you can easily understand that he took great pains and plenty of time to do the work right. If you have quite a number of females I think it best to select the male that you wish to head the pen and then pick your females that will mate best with him. It goes without saying that the male should be a good one of the breed and as he is half of the pen, and, I sometimes think, the bigger half, it will not pay to use a poor male bird to head the pen. The male should be free from disqualifications and I would not use a disqualified bird to head the breeding pen no matter how good a bird he is otherwise. If he is disqualified he is a cull, pure and simple, and should be eaten on the home table or sent to the butcher's. Sometimes it is pretty tough to part with an otherwise fine bird that has a side sprig, but it is by far the safest thing to do. If you use such a bird in your pens you will certainly get a goodly per cent of chicks with the same defect; so the wise thing to do is to use no such birds in the first place. I have cut the heads off of some of the best White Rock cockerels that I ever raised because they had positive white in ear lobes. I did not like to do it but I would not want to use them in my own pens and I could not honestly sell them to customers, so I believe I did just right. Yes, it pays to have a good male bird. He will sire the chicks from your pen and if he is a failure your whole year's work will be a failure. Use no bird that is not strong, healthy and vigorous. The male that heads your pen should be a husky fellow that would rather scrap than eat. Such birds are usually good sires. He should be splendid shape of the breed, with full breast and legs wide apart. Do not, under any circumstances, use a flat, hollow-breasted, knock-kneed male for breeding if you want good, healthy chicks. Back should be broad and as wide as possible at saddle; tail should be well spread and not pinched, excepting in games; head is a very important section and I don't care how good a bird is otherwise, if he has a mean-looking, coarse head the judges generally pass him by. I like a neat head, not too large for the breed, with good-colored eyes, a neat comb and wattles and well-shaped earlobes.

After you have the male bird that you think will meet your requirements you should go among your females and pick out females that you think will mate well with the male bird that you have selected, always keeping the weak points of the male bird in

mind, for no matter how good a bird he is he will not be perfect and will be lacking in some sections. Don't simply pick up the first female that you come to and mate to that male. Use some good, common sense. Think what you are doing. Your male bird carries his tail a little too high, does he? Well, let's look at this first hen. She carries her tail too high also. What would be the result if you mate together these two birds? Can't you guess? Why, the chicks would mostly all have too high tails. Do you want such results? Well, then, don't use this first hen. Here is another hen. She is too short in back and we pass her. Here comes the third one. This hen carries a nice low tail and has a good, long back. She is good shape every way, but she has one too many points in comb, though her comb is good otherwise. How is the male's comb? Extra good, is it? Well, I would then use this hen, as she is so very good in back and tail carriage where the male is a little deficient that the extra point on her comb will not be so much against her, being that the male is so strong in comb.

This is the way you should select and mate every female. Mate only females that are strong in sections where your male bird is weak. This does not mean that they must be or can be very weak in points where he is very strong. They should not be very weak in any one point. In fact, should also be strong in points where he is strong if you expect to make much progress in breeding from year to year. The point I wish to bring out most plainly is that you should have your females extra strong in sections where your male is rather weak and your male bird extra strong where your females are rather weak, and so on down the line. Don't have the same defects in both female and male. Such mating can not help but produce chicks that will be weak in these sections. There are not any of us careful enough in mating our pens. This is one of the most important matters in the breeding of standard-bred poultry. If you are going to have better stock this year than you had last you will have to start right now, right in your own breeding pen. Now, just to be honest, didn't you make up your mind last fall when the other fellow beat you at the fair that you would trim him next year? Didn't you, now? Of course you did. Well, now, if you are going to trim him this coming fall at the fairs you want to get busy in properly mating your pens. If there is any improvement made that is where it will start. Remember this; another thing: Don't see how many females you can mate with a male and get fertile eggs.

Eggs may be well fertilized and still be too weak to hatch because of overworking the male bird. I am of the opinion that we would get much better results if we would use smaller matings. I am going to try mating two males with fifteen females this year in a couple of pens. The males will be brothers and will be as near alike as possible. If they show a disposition to quarrel I shall let them in day and day about. This will work out well with the man who does not have the pens for so many small matings. A correspondent recently asked me if I think 12 hens too many for a Plymouth Rock cockerel. As a rule I think it is. Eight is plenty where

birds are yarded and our most successful breeders have only from four to six females in a pen in their very best matings. We should strive each year to improve our poultry and we can only do so by carefully mating our breeders. The breeder with a small flock should cull closely and keep only the best. By so doing he will gradually build up his flock from year to year.

Chickens Pay.

There is a class of people who are too prone to say "Chickens don't pay," says an Oregon poultryman. We want to tell you that chickens do pay, if properly cared for, and nowhere can poultry be handled with as large profits as on the dairy farm. The waste and by-products of the dairy farm will greatly reduce the cost of feeding the fowls, and no one feed is better than skimmed milk for chickens of all ages.

There may be some who at some time thought their poultry did not pay them. If so, we can say that they did not give their poultry the same care and attention they are now giving their paying dairy herds. Fowls require proper housing. It is just as essential to give hens comfortable quarters as it is for cows. Keep the floor well littered and feed all grain in this litter, to make the fowls work for it. Keep skimmed milk before them all the time in addition to water.

At the present price of feed it will cost a poultryman \$1.75 to feed a hen one year. On a dairy farm you can reduce this cost by one-half, if not more, by feeding the waste litter from the barns. This will contain much grain and seeds. In addition, feed the waste vegetables; and you also have the skim milk to mix the mash and for the chickens to drink.

A flock properly cared for will give us ten dozen eggs each year. The average price for eggs in the Sound markets is 30 cents per dozen. Each hen will, therefore, produce \$3 per year, which will leave you dairymen a handsome profit. The value of 100 hens is about equal to one good cow. Has any one a cow that is doing that well? What will it cost to raise this flock of 100 hens? Nothing! And this is why:

Half the chickens hatched are cockerels. At the age of ten or twelve weeks put these cockerels in fattening crates and feed on a fattening food made of one part barley middlings, one part white shorts and one part fine corn meal, wet with skim milk so it will be like pancake batter. At the end of from 14 to 20 days you will have a milk-fed chicken that will bring the highest market price of any poultry, and will sell for enough to pay for feeding the cockerels and the pullets to laying age. And when the hens are through laying they can be sold and this added to the profit.

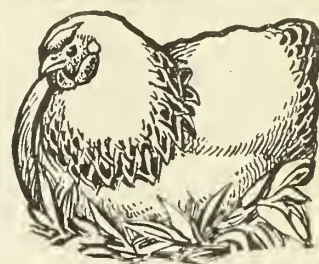
The way to keep the boy on the farm is to give him a personal interest in the farm. The best way to do this is to give him a start with chickens, allowing him all profits from the flock after paying for all feed bought for the chickens, and we will assure you that his profits from one hundred hens will clothe him and furnish him with an abundance of pocket money.—Colman's Rural World.

Send us a few items of interest about your success with poultry.

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This is the slogan of the Poultry business, and if your hens do not lay they do not pay. Eggs mean dollars in these times of high prices and the more eggs you get the more dollars you will have.

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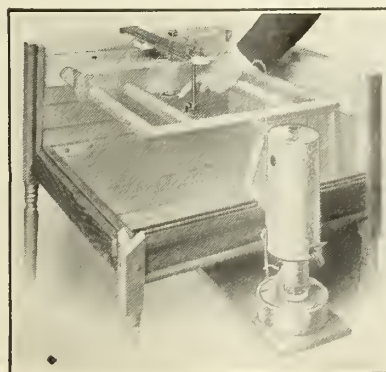
If you follow the rules of those who have made a success of the business. There is no reason why a hen should not lay in winter, if she is provided with the elements which make the egg. When these are provided she will produce the eggs.

The Successful Egg-a-Day Condition Powder

Contains these elements, when combined with the food, to make the laziest hen lay her share of eggs. It is a great Laying Tonic and conditioner of hens. Those who have tried it would not be without it—and now is your time to prove it. See the testimonials on back cover page of this number of The Feather. Send for our new free booklet, "Calendar of Poultry Keeping, 1912." Agents wanted. Regular size box, 1½ lbs., 25 cents; by mail, 45 cents. Five boxes, by express or freight, \$1.00. Sample size, ½ lb., 10 cents; by mail, 15 cents.

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How to Write for the Press

Every Business Has Its Interests, and Others Are Interested in Articles That Tell Inner Facts

By O. F. SAMPSON

The press is one means of spreading knowledge and items of interest. Nearly every trade, profession or business of any considerable size today has publications that deal directly with these interests—usually termed "trade journals." No business of our country is better represented by such journals than the poultry industry, and few trades or lines of business give their papers better patronage.

No matter how large the business interests may be that the publication represents, it will be of very little benefit, indeed, unless the columns of the journal have a good supply of material of interest to the class it represents. Not only must it use a good supply of material, but the "stuff" must be timely, practical and interesting. Upon these three qualities lie the success or failure of the journal in its field, and with great respect to the editor of this journal the writer believes that the strong articles appearing in every issue of this publication is the one great argument for its greater circulation. The editor of a journal seldom is in want of material—or "copy," as it is known at the shop. The great value of an editor's service to his journal doesn't lie in "getting copy," but in knowing how to keep out poor copy. This is true in all journalistic work, but remarkably true in poultry work. As a rule, every poultry breeder is more or less enthusiastic in his work and his very enthusiasm encourages him to "write to his poultry journal" his experience, regardless of whether he ever did anything of this kind or not before. Now, writing for the press is really an art or business of itself; and a person may be a grand success in the poultry business, but a dismal failure at telling his story. Hence, he is sore at the editor for not publishing it; he doesn't realize that the editor is a very busy man, and hasn't time to revise and rewrite his stuff for publication. This article is written, not so much to tell you what and how to write—that is an art of itself—but to give you a few views in getting your copy in shape for the press. Many a man or woman has made wonderful success in the poultry business that has never been known outside their immediate section, because they believe they "can't write their experience for the papers." I trust the following brief ideas from one who has had experience both as a maker of copy, and a reviser and reader of copy in the printery, may help this class.

There are a few requirements for copy to be published that are either absolutely essential or, at least, that will guarantee the writer much more chance of notice. "Copy" is often judged in the office quite as much by its appearance and practicability as by the publicity or success of its author. This is a fact often overlooked by those not acquainted with the inner life of a publishing house. In fact, I have had people bemoan the fate of their manuscripts that had been returned to them, believing that they were "turned down" because the author wasn't a personal friend of the editor, etc. This is "sour grapes" pure and simple. If your stuff has something new, practical, strong or extra good in thought and is written so these things stand out clear and easily comprehended, take it from me that it will stand a good chance of being used by the editor,

even if he or no one in the shop ever heard of you. That's the point. If your stuff is original, snappy or useful and is of interest to the editor and likely to interest his readers in a great degree, nothing but a fire, earthquake or other great disturbance at the shop will keep it out. Of course, if the author is well known, so much the better—at least for the price paid—but several very original and strong articles from a novice, when gotten up in good shape, will make him well known.

Now, a few words as to how to prepare copy. After you decide you have something worth telling, the next thing is how to tell it—and where. Your reading of several poultry journals will soon convince you which journal uses nearest your expressions and mode of writing. Don't try sending copy to a journal whose stuff is plainly above or below your ability. You should, if you intend to continue writing, strive to qualify for the best; but don't expect to be admitted by these people first of all, unless your stuff merits it.

In writing copy the main thing is clearness of expressing your ideas. This is of vastly more importance than pure grammar or even perfect spelling. Both above qualities are essential to success, but a word now or then misspelled may be readily corrected by the proofreader, while a badly mixed sentence, poorly punctuated and constructed, leaves him utterly at a loss as to your meaning and the reader is left to flounder in it. If a poor writer with a pen use a typewriter. They are best anyway, if you can think as you write. Never write for publication with a pencil; use good black or green ink, and ordinary heavy letter (not note size) paper with plain lines far enough apart so the proofreader or editor may make corrections between lines if he desires. Also leave about 1 to 2 inches margin at left side of sheet and a good margin at top of each sheet for editor's use. On first (title) sheet leave at least two to three inches space at top for heads, etc. It will be unnecessary to tell you to "write only on one side of the sheet," as this fact is well known. When done, count or estimate the total words of your manuscript and write same in upper right-hand corner of your first page of manuscript. This gives editor the information at once, and if you desire a certain price for your stuff write the price there also. Sign your name and address at bottom of last sheet, and before sealing envelope weigh manuscript and enclose postage for its return if it isn't accepted—provided you wish it returned. Never roll manuscript. Secure envelopes (size 9 or 10) long enough to enclose manuscript full width, and fold twice over into thirds when mailing. Mark your name and address on envelope corner for return if lost.

Now as to remuneration for manuscript to trade journals. It is increasing each year, but it is not high. A large portion of poultry journals give advertising space only for copy. In starting, this is quite often the best the writer may expect, but he will gain a lot of experience and later will be able to handle special subjects on cash commissions. Very few of our special writers for poultry journals get over \$3 per page cash, unless they have charge of some department of the jour-

nal and are on the editorial staff. Writers for publications of national circulation, such as agricultural, general and home magazines, get from fifteen to fifty cents per inch cash for copy, but they are generally old writers or prominent poultrymen.

In closing I may sum the above all up in one concise paragraph, as follows: Make your copy clear, practical and interesting for the reader. When it is necessary speak directly to the editor, but don't do this unless asked to do so, as the reader is the one you are talking to through the type. Don't make your copy dry with too many statistics, only in cases where you are using them as arguments; and don't use text matter. Originality counts and pays. Trade journals desire, above all else, absolutely correct statements. Errors cause endless loss to readers who have faith in the journal, and, besides, may cause the editor and publisher endless trouble. The editor should be your best friend and he will be if you give him your best ideas frankly, clearly and truly. Whatever else you do don't get a grouch against the editor or the journal if your copy isn't accepted. I don't know this is going to be, but I'll give you a little secret how I work it: If the editor returns it I make a note of it in my manuscript book and it goes out on next mail to another editor for acceptance or refusal, and so *ad referendum* until it is accepted or worn out.

Grade Up the Flocks

The farmer should grade up his fowls and not waste time and money with mongrels. The thoroughbred fowl will eat less and lay more eggs than a mongrel will, besides being of a higher grade for eating purposes. Those who are not keeping thoroughbreds should start this spring with a setting or two of pure-bred eggs, and then gradually build up a strain of money makers. Try the plan and see how it works.

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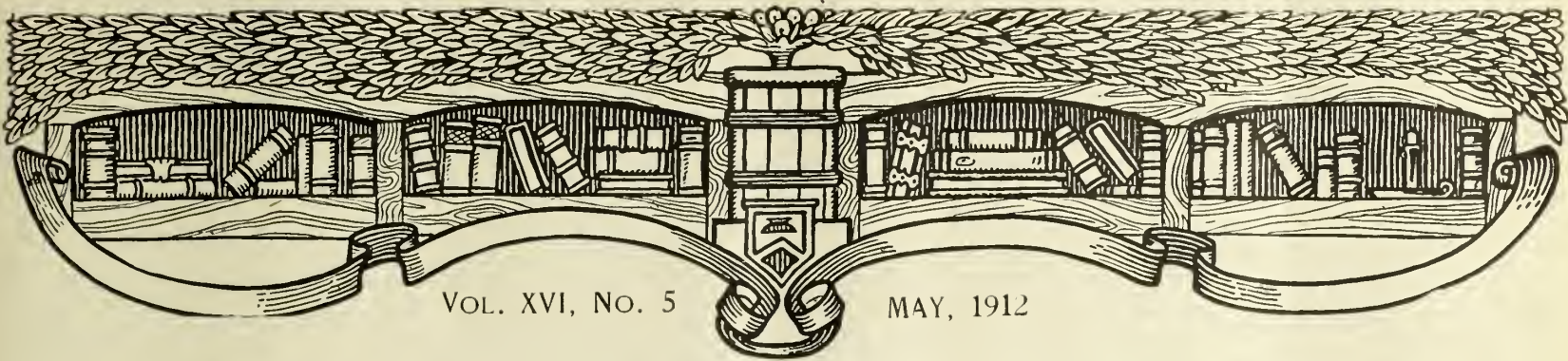
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Editorial Comment

There is a great feeling of respect in this country for the hen, and her ability to hold this respect is never to be questioned, if we are to judge of her sterling qualities in the matter of eggs. A few years ago a great many people questioned the lasting qualities of the production of eggs, and entertained fears of an overproduction. So it is with this class of prophets, and, instead of overdoing the thing with the 200-egg hen, it now appears for the past two winters to be decidedly underdone. Those who were wise enough to prepare for the battle by having a good laying strain of birds, and accommodation for them, are now reaping a harvest. It is evident that even cold storage accommodation has not, up to the present time, put a corner on the egg market. When the subject is looked squarely in the face, you need only to ask yourself the question, Can we produce a sufficient number of eggs to keep ourselves as well supplied as we need be?

There is always a time for everything and it is up to you to run on the schedule.

Oftentimes a good kick sharpens the intellect and shows you the way to fortune.

When a boy who has the true, inborn love for pets in his heart reaches the age when he longs to be the owner of a pair of bantams, he should be encouraged. Such boys grow up and become our best citizens. Boyhood days are all the more joyous where pets are prominent about the home. The care for the creatures develops a spirit of kindness that will stick all through life. There is no more pleasing spectacle than to see a great, stout, brawny boy tenderly and earnestly caring for his pets. Ownership will make the boy's heart swell with pride and importance. It will also often develop business traits and help form good character. The boy who is spending happy hours with his attractive pets is in far better company than the one who finds his main attractions and amusements on the street.

The darkest night frequently is followed by the brightest day.

There are many prominent poultrymen who began their career with a pair of bantams, and, in many instances, kinds that were far from standard requirements.

Did you ever find it to pay to set the same eggs?

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Enthusiasm is one of those things that help in a great measure for success.

When a thing comes easy try to do something really difficult.

One of the most important factors in the production of fresh-laid eggs for market is to settle the question of the kind of poultry best adapted to the purpose. We have attempted to show that the most profitable hens, or egg-producing fowl of any kind, are those that are bred for the most remunerative results in the production of eggs for market. No matter what kind of poultry is kept, if they are not of an egg-producing type they will not be profitable. At the same time birds may be of the very best egg-producing type and fail for lack of breeding, feeding and attention.

The fool's time is always the wise man's harvest.

Above all things, do not attempt to grow chickens, turkeys, ducks and geese in promiscuous flocks. When all these are kept, separate them. No variety will thrive when kept with others, and very little success ever comes to those who keep them all in one flock.

Facts are facts, and there are no facts better established than that true standard-bred fowls are best for producing eggs for market and for market poultry; that high-class, well-bred cattle are the most profitable for the dairy or the market meat business, when bred for these purposes. Those who attempt to make a success of egg-production for market, market poultry, dairy products or beef cattle by keeping low-bred stock, have utterly failed in the attempt, while their neighbors, who understand the situation, will prosper by keeping the proper kind of live stock for the purpose intended. These facts are established beyond all doubt, and can not be denied by anyone.

A downright lazy man is something to be avoided.

Advantage should be taken of the low rate of subscription noted elsewhere in combination with our valuable books, and those desiring a strictly first-class magazine on poultry and pigeons could not do better than subscribe to The Feather. Many valuable and instructive articles are in course of preparation by well-known and authoritative writers, which will be used in subsequent editions, and none can afford to miss a single issue. Back numbers can not be supplied and it would be a wise thing to begin now and make sure of the good things that are to come.

In addition to The Feather we have twelve books published in the interest of poultry and pigeons. The books are the best of the kind for the money as has been evidenced by their extended sale in this and other countries. Look the list over and see if you do not find the very thing that you want in live, wide-awake poultry and pigeon literature.

The other fellow always has a good reason for his success.

The cold, damp spring seems to have brought an unusually large number of ailments to the younger chicks, and catarrh and roup to the older stock of poultry. This always comes as the result of exposure to damp draughts. Nothing injures poultry as quickly as damp surroundings and draughts of cold, damp air blowing over them at night when at roost. The obliteration of this will prevent such ailments. Poultry that roost out in a tree in the open are little affected by such conditions, but inside of the house they feel it almost as quickly as will a child.



Is the Mongrel a Profitable Fowl?

Testimony That Goes to Show that Unless the Fowl is Pure in Blood it Will be Unreliable.

By MICHAEL K. BOYER

IN no class of farm stock is purity of blood so much a consequence as with poultry. The haphazard mixture of breeds is the downward tendency, and instead of increasing in production there is bound to be a decline. There was a time when the mongrel or dunghill hen was considered the only one for profit. At that time the pure-bred or "fancy" hen was nothing more than an ornamental fowl, one that had to be carefully handled on account of its weak constitution.

It is different today. The pure-breds of the present time are not only as strong as any cross-bred could be, but they combine with that hardiness wonderful powers for producing eggs and growing meaty carcasses.

It is rare at the present time to see any word of praise published in support of the mongrel, and when we do see any honor accorded it, it is, as a rule, from the pen of someone not known to the poultry world.

But there are exceptions to all rules, and here is a case in point:

C. S. Valentine is a poultry writer well and favorably known, and, as a rule, what comes from that gifted pen is good, sound doctrine. Yet here again is an exception.

The aforesaid writer, in an article published some years ago in the New York Tribune Farmer, quotes an article from a Western exchange in which the writer said: "The first and most essential thing to do, if we expect our fowls to lay during the winter, is to raise pure-bred fowls. If your flock has all the colors of the rainbow, inbred, weak constitution, and the many complaints an inbred flock are subjected to, I beseech of you to procure a breeding pen of pure-bred fowls. Then by early spring you can begin hatching chicks that will be beautiful as well as healthy, and then you will have the pullets that begin to lay at an early age; and the question of how to get eggs during the winter will then be very plain to you."

While we do not endorse this selection in its entirety, at the same time the writer hits upon some facts. We believe that winter egg production has alone been solved by the adoption of pure-bred

poultry. Mongrel hens never did give us the big records, nor was there ever a practical poultry farm started with them. When we adopt pure-breds we have birds of practically the same habits, abilities and characteristics. We can more intelligently feed and care for them.

In these days of trap nests, when phenomenal egg records have been given to the poultry world, how many scores have been credited to the common, mongrel, dunghill fowl? Not one, to the best of our knowledge. The reason is plain, for in the mongrel type we have no fixed bloods, but instead a conglomeration that means not one thing nor the other.

But when the writer of the above extract lays claim to the fact that mongrels are inbreds, we believe that he goes a step too far. We are inclined to the belief that they are the reverse to that charge. As a rule, a flock of mongrels have much to recommend themselves when strength and vigor are at stake, but beyond that we can see no benefit whatever. In the hands of the fancier the pure-bred is more likely to be inbred, for the reason that the fancier is slow to introduce new blood, fearing that the infusion may change the character of the strain he is trying to build up.

But Mrs. Valentine does not better this matter when she adds: "And what is the poor, unsettled rank and file of man to do in the face of such cocksure affirmation as this? At the very outset it puts all chance of winter eggs beyond his reach for the present season, because he does not just now keep pure-bred fowls. It is the exception, as yet, that does this."

Thirty years' experience with poultry and poultry matters has convinced us that no man yet could boast of his winter egg crop like the one who has kept purely thoroughbreds, and that not once has it been recorded that a large, successful egg farm was built up by inferior stock. "The poor, unsettled rank and file of man" had better start with a dozen pure-breds than with fifty head of a mixed lot. Far better this small beginning and devote the balance of the year to raising sufficient stock than try to cater to a market with stock that are not to be relied upon.

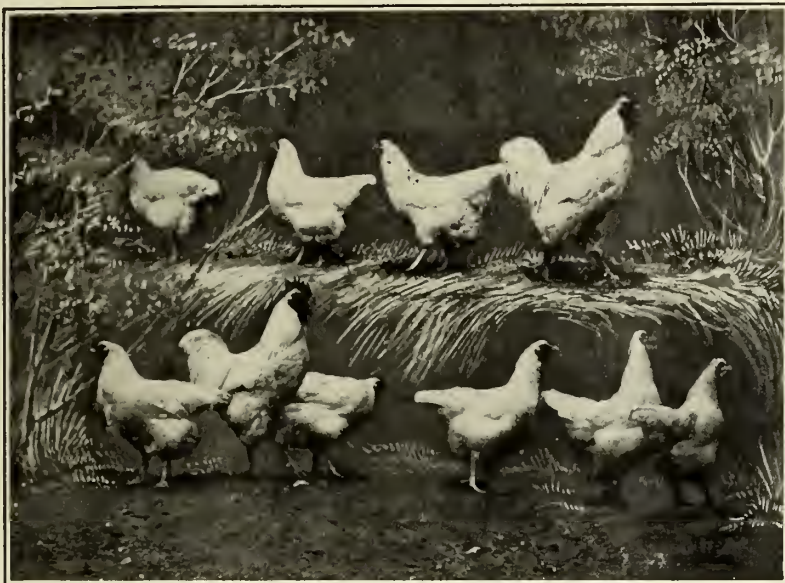
Then the writer tries to excuse herself for the

broad assertion made by saying: "I do not desire to appear as a champion of mongrel fowls as against the pure-breds. Indeed, I have been thoroughly identified with pure-bred fowls for twenty years, but I consider the statement that the most essential thing to do in order to get winter eggs is to raise pure-bred birds is entirely misleading." Here we differ. Without a doubt, the winter egg crop would never have become a fact had the poultrymen continued on with the mixed lot of fowls. Therefore, it is highly essential that the poultry be strictly pure, for in such flocks can be intelligently bred the utility cause. It is not only so with poultry, but also with cattle and all sorts of live stock. The blood must be right.

We do not endorse, however, the claim that "all common stock is unhealthy, inbred, non-laying; that all pure-bred stock is handsome, healthy, early laying and not inbred." As we have said before, mongrel stock, as a general thing, is healthy stock from the fact that it is not inbred. The continual mixture of bloods avoids the latter trouble. It also is wrong to say they are non-laying, for we can at times find specimens that are excellent layers, but, as a class, they are poor egg producers. When the United States Government placed the average for the laying hen at from five to eight dozen eggs a year, it based its figures upon the results from the farms where practically nothing but mongrel stock is quartered. On the farm of the writer, with strictly pure-breds, the average laying runs between ten and twelve dozen eggs a year.

There is no disputing the fact that pure-breds are handsome. The uniformity of markings, color, shape and size makes them attractive; and they are as healthy as mongrels if properly bred, fed and cared for. They are more apt to be early layers as pullets than the mongrels for the reason that they are bred up for egg production, and this is especially true when trap nests are used, and the best layers in the flocks bred from.

Mrs. Valentine continues: "Admitting that you will give reasonably good care and housing, the 'first essential' toward winter eggs is good pullets—pullets ready to lay and capable of good production. And if you have such pullets, you don't need



to worry any as to whether they are pure-bred or half-bred. It is just here that the greatest difficulty lies. It is very difficult, under ordinary conditions, to secure as many pullets as you would like to keep over, well raised, sufficiently mature and ready for work, when the season arrives that you have planned for them to begin their winter job. Usually owners don't have enough of the kind they want, and they fill out with those that are not ready, and that is the whole story of the failure. Pullets not ready are 'going to lay soon' all winter. But they don't, till February or March, and that is not satisfactory."

Arguments of that nature will never educate farmers and beginners in the value of thoroughbreds. It should be the tendency to elevate, and not deteriorate.

Until practical tests prove that the mongrel is "just as good" as the pure-bred for practical purposes—and we wager that never can be proved—it is suicidal to the poultry interests to put up such an argument. What success would the broiler plants have if mongrels, and not a single variety of pure-bred stock, were employed? Uniformity of size and condition is of untold value in shipping carcasses to market, and so it is with eggs, and surely we can not expect that uniformity when we use stock that will produce all sorts of sizes, color and condition.

Compare the returns of the farmer who keeps strictly pure stock with his neighbor who has a mixed lot. The former is two to one ahead. Besides, is it not a fact that a thoroughbred man will have thoroughbred stock? Is it not the slovenly farmer who has dunghill chickens, half-starved horses, poor looking cows and runt pigs?

Surely in this age of progress we do not wish to go backwards.

John M. Clairborne, author of "The New Industry; or, Thoroughbred Poultry South," wrote fully twenty years ago: "The farmer should understand that any thoroughbred fowl will lay more eggs and sell in market for more money than an ordinary barnyard scrub. I am often asked the question why I prefer a thoroughbred. The question is so ridiculous that I usually answer that a man who does not prefer a thoroughbred fowl to a barnyard would prefer a Spanish pony to an Arabian horse, a Spanish cow to an Alderney. If farmers South would breed fine fowls for one season they would not be 'caught dead' with a dunghill."

J. H. Drevenstedt, the noted poultry judge, in the book "The Business Hen" says: "The value

of thoroughbred poultry to the farmer is fully as great as that of thoroughbred stock of any other kind. It costs no more to keep, brings better prices and is altogether more profitable than common barnyard stock. When I first engaged in farming, little heed was paid to the hens. The farm, the garden, the cattle and horses were carefully looked after with an eye to profit, but the hens were a side issue. The flock was mixed, and was of no particular breed, and the eggs and dressed poultry were like the flock—mixed also. There was no uniformity in the product, consequently it sold in the markets as ordinary produce. That means ordinary prices and little profits."

Grant M. Curtiss, in his book "Success with Poultry," says no man is justified in handling mongrel poultry—not in this day and age of the world. It is the same with poultry as with horses, or cattle, or sheep, or hogs—the money is to be made in thoroughbred stock. It takes no more house room or yard room, no more feed, no more time and labor to raise one hundred or one thousand pure-blooded fowls than it does to raise an equal number of mongrels, but the value of the product in one case ranges from twice to several times as much as in the other, according to your

skill as a breeder and the market you reach.

"If you are a farmer or villager and have mongrel stock, make up your mind to work into pure-bred stock as soon as you can, without unwise haste or expense."

A. F. Hunter, some years ago, made a trip to the poultry killing establishment of Armour & Co., of Kansas City, and learned that one day there came to the slaughter house, among a great many other coops of chickens, several coops containing "culls" from a farm where are kept Wyandottes only. Instructions were given to have that lot kept together and by themselves, so that they might be compared with the common "dunghills," of which the bulk of the receipts consisted. When dressed and arranged for comparison it was easy to see that the pure-bred Wyandottes were far superior in plumpness, fullness of breast, smooth, fair skin, yellow legs—in fact, that it was a far better average lot of dressed poultry than the common stock. Mr. Armour's attention was called to the display, and he instructed the foreman in that department to pack five cases, of one hundred pounds each, ship one of them to each of five commission houses at different points in the East and hand him a special report of the returns—also reporting prices returned in common chickens sent to same places the same day. When the returns came in it was found that the five cases of Wyandottes graded as "A No. 1," and the price was three cents a pound more than for the common stock. What an object lesson!

Mr. Hunter thus reasons: "It costs as much, and takes as long, to kill and pick a scrub as it does a pure-bred—and the expense of handling (dressing, packing and shipping) is the same. If Armour & Co. get three cents a pound more for the good stuff, they get their commission on a third more returns and the farmer gets the full third more. It costs him no more to hatch and raise good stock than it does to hatch and raise scrubs, and he will get three cents (probably thirty-three and a third per cent) more a pound for it. It was worth the cost and fatigue of our journey to get that one object lesson."

John H. Robinson, in his book, "Poultry Craft," says that with other than pure-bred fowls the progressive poultry keeper has little to do. With common or mongrel fowls he concerns himself least of all. That some mongrel hens are healthier and more prolific than some high-class stock is



true. The converse of the proposition is equally true. As between all common hens and all pure-bred hens, there is little to be said for common hens. The experience of most of those who are thoroughly familiar with both classes of stock has been that, with rare exceptions, they could get better practical results from thoroughbreds taken at random than from the most carefully selected common stock. The pure-bred fowl is the result of selections extending through a long course of years. However faulty selection may at times have been from the economic point of view, the general result has been infinitely better than the natural selection which was given free course in the common fowls.

Henry Trafford, in his book, "Poultry Keeping in a Nut Shell," says even if one is beginning the poultry business it is much better to begin with pure-bred stock, because such stock has, by careful breeding, been brought to a high state of

excellence, while mongrel stock is uncertain, so that they are becoming less common every year, as the importance of the industry and the superiority of pure-bred stock are better understood. At this late day it is not necessary to argue this point for no one with progressive ideas would think of breeding the common native cattle, swine or sheep of the country instead of the better stock that has taken its place. While the importance of taking the same care in breeding poultry that has been taken with other stock has not been advocated for as many years as has been improvement along other lines, it is so evident that pure-bred poultry is more profitable than mongrels that good stock is becoming the rule, and the mongrel will be driven out of existence in the course of a few years.

H. B. Geer, in his book, "The Chicken Business," says the ordinary barnyard fowl has served a good purpose in the past, but when it comes

to the question of profits—of dollars and cents—they can not hope to compete with their thoroughbred cousins, and no well-informed person will undertake poultry keeping for profit with hens that will lay but half the number of eggs in a year that a thoroughbred hen will. Neither will any one who is posted begin raising chickens for market that weigh only a pound or so at eight to twelve weeks old, when a better kind can be had that will weigh two to three pounds at the same age.

Thus we believe that the testimony submitted will be sufficient to convince the beginner that if he wants to make a success of his venture he must employ such stock as will give him the proper returns. It is possible to get good laying stock from dunghills, but it is not probable. In this, as in all business, it is important that a right beginning be made.

Some Seasonable Advice For Bantam Breeders

By C. A. HURSE

NOW is the time for the Bantam breeder to begin getting his forces in order. Those earnest, eager individuals wishful to win in the chicken classes at the early shows will ere this have had some eggs down, and possibly a few chickens out, but the amateur fancier, who does not desire to be first and foremost at the big events, and who is content to snatch an odd prize here and there through the season, the end of March or the beginning of April is quite soon enough to get out the few chicks that he wishes to hatch.

During the last few years the keeping of Bantams has progressed by leaps and bounds, and much of this is due to the increasing favor which the charming little miniatures find with town dwellers. Bantams are to be found in many an urban, and suburban, district nowadays, where they were scarcely known a few years since. This is partly due to increased interest in the breeding of Bantams, and partly to the fact that poultry lovers who have been much hampered in the keeping of a few fowls by the fidgetiness of neighbors, and fussiness of sanitary officials, have got over the

difficulty by indulging in the hobby of Bantam breeding. Many who object to the presence of fowls—that is, large poultry—profess to being charmed with the dear little Bantams, and seldom does one hear of the neighbors of a fancier objecting to his keeping a pen or two of Bantams. It must also be remembered that Bantams may be kept, and successfully kept, under conditions that large fowls most certainly could not be. The space occupied by a pen of Bantams takes little away from the garden, whilst the birds themselves add to its attractiveness. Many an artistic erection have I seen in a suburban garden with flowers and shrubs surrounding it, and delicate little Sebrights or Rosecombs parading about behind the wire.

Those who love Bantams may indulge in the hobby of keeping them at very little trouble, very little cost, and the utilizing of very little space. A house 4 ft. square in the ground space and 4 ft. to 4 ft. 6 in. in height, with a run of 5 yds. or 6 yds. length, provide ample accommodation for a cock and four hens of any breed of Bantam. One-half, at least, of the run should be covered in, and the whole should be boarded up 2 ft. from the ground, this will keep the runs fairly dry, and also prevent the birds from being frightened by stray cats. Those who require an inexpensive Bantam house should purchase one of the small poultry houses which are advertised in Poultry World by all the large appliance makers. A few stakes, a roll of wire netting, some quartering, a few flooring boards, or sheets of corrugated iron, and a capital house and run are provided. The house may be either tarred, painted, or treated with one of the many preservatives advertised. Myself, I prefer dark green paint for a Bantam house in a garden. The perches in a Bantam house should be about 15 in. or 18 in. from the floor, and the nest boxes, of which there should be one for each hen, should be about 10 in. square. The floor of the house should be covered with fine peat moss to the depth of 3 in. or 4 in. The droppings should be removed as frequently as possible, and the moss turned over at least twice a week; in this manner it will last for six weeks or two months without needing renewal. On the question of

floors or no floors I unhesitatingly say have wooden floors in all the houses. Many Bantams are apt to suffer from cramp, and an earth floor in the house is conducive to this. Between the covered portion of the run and the uncovered, a board, about a foot high, should be placed. This will allow of peat moss, ashes, sand, road sweepings, or other scratching material being given to the birds without any fear of its being spread all over the place, or of its becoming wet and soiled by the rain.

One often hears complaints from Bantam keepers that their birds do not lay well. This generally arises from one or other of the following causes: No provision for scratching and dusting themselves, such as I have advocated in the covered portion of the run, the failure to provide the birds with a regular and plentiful supply of good, sharp flint grit, or the giving of too much food. The latter is a most frequent cause of failure among Bantam breeders. Hundreds of Bantams are killed year by year by mistaken kindness. The experienced fancier, of course, does not do this kind of thing, but many who are new beginners in the fancy, and those who keep their Bantams as pets, are both most prone to errors in this direction.



TIMELY TOPICS

By PLUMMER McCULLOUGH.

Where is the new edition of the Standard that we have heard so much about? Regarding this the editor of Poultry says: "We have been looking long and vainly for an announcement that the revised edition of the revised Standard was ready for the press. Any competent man could have made all the corrections needed in the famous 'misfit' Standard in ten days. Any publisher could have set the whole book up and had it on the market months ago. The point is that the officers of the Association have been working tooth and nail to get new members and accumulate ten-dollar bills while 25,000 people who bought a Standard last year are getting impatient and beginning to feel that they have been flim-flammed out of their money by a game worked to sell to them another copy at a large profit."

This is quite plain talk and contains much to think about. While it is all right to get new members, it is not all right to neglect other important work in order to get new members. The poultrymen of this country are at this time without a complete Standard and have been for some time. Surely the Association has had time to correct the first edition and get out a new supply.

The A. P. A. seems to have things pretty much its own way. The different specialty clubs should get out standards of their own for their respective varieties and let the Association make the desired changes or not make them just as she pleases.

Dr. P. T. Woods, in American Poultry Journal, has an interesting article on "Egg Breeds and Egg Farms," in March number. In conclusion Dr. Woods says: "Taking the so-called 'egg varieties' and the so-called 'general purpose' varieties of popular fowl there is not so much difference in the varieties as there is in the man behind the feed pail." True, Doctor. The man who carries the feed pail cuts a big figure indeed. The different strains of a variety have much to do with the egg yield also.

I. K. Felch still pins his faith to the score card. In American Poultry Journal he has an article on "And They Ask Us to Harmonize Such Differences." He tells of selling a White Rock hen that was perfect in color and a model in shape, scoring 96 points when he sold her. She was scored the next season at a show and scored only 86 points. Mr. Felch says it is just such accidents as this that cause the howl against score card judging. Yes, it is, Mr. Felch, and justly so. The trouble is, we don't exactly know when they are accidents and when they are not accidents.

Mr. Felch further says: "Comparison shows have no record behind the fact that the winners were the best in competition in the minds of the judges. This may be 86 points or 96 points, so far as the blue ribbon goes, but no matter what the specimen win, if it scores 92 or from that to 97 points, it has a first-class record to be proud of." Mr. Felch and I can not agree at all on the score card system. The great trouble is that no two judges seldom score the same specimen alike and often vary much in the different cuts. Often the same judge can not score the same bird twice exactly the same. Such records as these are not, in my

opinion, "records to be proud of," no matter what the score. As to the winners being the best in the competition "in the minds of the judges," I will say that a bird scores 96 in the "minds" of some judges and then 86 in the "mind" of some other judge. So after all it is pretty much in the mind of the judge. As far as records go, I doubt if there is a judge living who would swear that he could score a bird six times and score it exactly the same. Now, of what value are such records? What good are they? Simply no good.

I remember reading in Poultry a short time ago where a judge in a Western show gave one Brown Leghorn cockerel a score of 94 and another a score of 86 points, and later did not know which one of them was the one that got the highest score. Another judge scored these two birds and gave them a score within a point of each other. Surely this was a record to be proud of. We like Mr. Felch and no one enjoys his writings more than I, but I can not see as he does about score cards.

In R. P. J., D. Lincoln Orr says: "I believe if Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Thompson, Bradley Bros., Mr. Latham, Owen Farms and Grove Hill Poultry Yards were to send a string of birds over to England it would do more good than all the meetings for the promotion of an international standard ever could." We believe Mr. Orr is about right, but the expense in sending over a string of birds to English shows would be considerable and while we would like to see such a plan worked out, I think it will be some time before much is done in this line.

Just while we are writing about international standards, wouldn't it be wise to first get out an American standard that is a standard before we talk about an international standard?

Mrs. Chas. Jones says in R. P. J., that "blackhead" in turkeys is caused by overfeeding and should be called liver disease. If overfeeding is really the cause it would not be hard to cure, but as it is turkey raisers do not find it an easy disease to cure. There is good money for farmers in raising each year a flock of turkeys, but the turkey crop in our section seems to get shorter each year. Just why there are not more turkeys raised is not easily answered, but it is not really because turkeys are not profitable, for there is no flock on the farm that will pay a greater profit than the turkey crop. If you have never tried raising turkeys give them a trial this season, providing you have plenty of range. If you do not have range you had better not try them, as they are of a wild nature and must have range.

In the American Poultry Advocate is an article on Indian Runners which states: "If the English Runners were in the Standard in less than five years there would be very few 'Light Fawn Runners' on the map. Today there is a good demand for ten English Runners for every one that is produced." This Indian Runner Duck muddle promises to make two varieties of the Fawn and White and English Penciled varieties, and in the long run will be for the best of the breed. The Indian Runners have gained in favor

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by leaps and bounds and it is a pity to handicap them by everlastingly scrapping over the Fawns and Penciled varieties to see which is "true Runner." Let the breeders get together and settle this matter, and settle it right.

Rev. W. W. Cox says, "Drooping wings are a sign of weakness and such chicks should be killed." This is very true, and other signs of weaklings are ruffled feathers, skinny, pale, wrinkled legs, long, snaky heads, and such birds should never be kept for breeders. They will not make good breeders and will be sure to reproduce themselves to a certain extent.

Successful Farming asks: "How many years since you changed eggs or put new blood in your flock? I have seen hens bred in and in till they were just about good enough for nothing. Branch out a little. Get eggs from somebody who has better stock than you have." Pretty good advice this, and if many breeders, especially farmers, would put it in practice, they would make big improvements in their flocks. Don't be afraid to use a little of your money to buy a good setting or two of eggs. Get good eggs, too. Don't get the two settings for a dollar kind. Such cheap stuff will be a drawback to you. If you raise one or two good birds from a \$5 setting of eggs you will have a cheap bird and then you stand the chance of getting several birds raised from a setting of eggs.

Thos. F. Rigg, in R. P. J., writes: "There will be but little complaint this season about eggs not hatching well. For more than thirty years we have carefully watched and the record is that after a very severe, cold winter eggs hatch satisfactorily; that in a season following a warm, open winter, the hatches are very poor.

"Our idea is that when hens lay all winter they are weakened by the time they are to produce eggs for hatching in the spring, and the life germ of the egg is low in vitality, hence a poor hatch. During the winter we have just passed through, hens in the Northern States have laid few eggs. They will be in full vigor this month and next, and we may look for good hatches."

We shall watch this year's hatches with interest and see if Mr. Rigg's prophecy comes true. We know it to be a fact that hens can be lowered in vitality by forcing them for egg production. But many hens lay well in winter without being forced. We remember of A. F. Hunter's flock of White Rock pullets about three years ago making a splendid egg record during the winter and their eggs seemed to hatch as well as usual in the spring. However, this is not usually the case and I believe that the large and successful breeders do not have their breeding hens produce many eggs during the winter months.

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Mrs. M. C. Corry has an interesting article in R. P. J. about watering chicks. She says in part: "All books and poultry raisers generally, say to give baby chicks plenty of water. I say don't. I know what I am talking about, for I have made a close study of the subject for ten years. Do not give the chicks water to drink the first week and only in small quantities the second week. Indeed, I am very careful even the third week. After that they will not drink enough to hurt themselves. The reason for my care is this: The yolk of the egg is not absorbed in 24 hours, as poultry books tell us, and if we give baby chicks much water to drink they fill themselves up, even to the intestines, and as the skin that encloses the yolk is really a part of the intestines, which shrinks and thickens as the yolk is absorbed and finally closes up entirely, if we let them drink much before this occurs the water runs into the yolk sack, preventing it from being absorbed and so causes inflammation and diarrhoea and, of course, the death of the chick. I know this to be so because I have dissected many chickens, until I am satisfied about the cause of my chickens dying. Now I have become so certain of raising my baby chicks that it has become a great pleasure for me and I have just as good 'luck' in June and July as in any other month. I feed baby chick feed entirely, and the way I get over the water problem is this: I dip stale bread in water and then squeeze it just as dry as I can and give them two feeds a day of this. This supplies enough moisture for the chicks for the first two weeks of their lives. When I do begin to give water I give just a sip or two. The water is placed in three or four water fountains to each 100 chicks, and I stand by to see that each has had a tiny sip, then I take it away. I give them water at first once a day. Then twice, then three times, beginning about the middle of the second week. Be careful not to give them more and get soft hearted, for if your chicks are hatched right and brooded right there is no reason why you can not raise all, or nearly all, that hatch. In feeding the bread, be sure to squeeze it out as dry as possible. Do not feed it in a sloppy condition."

We considered the above well worth printing. It may seem all foolishness to some people, but there may be a lot of sense in it, too. We would like to see it given a good square test. Now, it is true that wild birds, such as robins, hawks, owls, crows and all birds do not give their young anything to drink till they are old enough to leave the nest, which is from two to three or four weeks. Now, to come down to facts, how do we know but that our chicks would be better off without water to drink for the first week or so of their lives. We would like readers of The Feather to give this a trial on a few of their chicks this season and report results.

If your incubator gets gay and runs up to 105 or 108 degrees don't throw the eggs away disgusted; they may not be ruined, though they may be injured. It is always best to give them a trial at any rate, and don't be too hasty about destroying them till you are very certain they are spoiled.

Dr. N. W. Sanborn has a splendid article in American Poultry Advocate on "The Farm Flock of 100 Hens." The Doctor writes: "The paying flock of hens on the farm never roosts on the farm machinery, under the corn house or takes to the barn loft at night. 'Any old thing' in the pullet line will not make up a paying farm flock. Sel-

dom can you buy as good quality hens as you can raise. The well bred, well cared for farm flock should average one hundred and fifty eggs a year for every female wintered." Dr. Sanborn is good authority and I am glad to be able to give our readers some of his writings. The Doctor used to breed Buff Wyandottes for pleasure and profit. Now he breeds them for profit and pleasure. You see he has changed it a little.

In the Timely Topics for March we mentioned the fact that Judge Townsend does not allow dropping boards to be used in his testing house. Referring thereto he says: "Dropping boards are relics of the dark ages! Unless they are cleaned daily—a fearsome job in zero weather and a dirty job at all times—the fowls suffer from the stench. My helpers proceed as follows: Matted straw is placed under each roost. The droppings fall into this and can not be scratched into the free litter. This matted straw, with the droppings, is removed once in a week or ten days, and a fresh supply is furnished. The birds are better off and the labor is reduced to a minimum. As side wall trap nests are used, there is no loss of floor space. And with the wonderful Tanner ventilators, there have been no odors, no drafts, no colds and no frozen combs—and we have gone through the worst winter known for years."

We thank Mr. Townsend for favoring us with the above item. We have been doing without dropping boards ourselves in one of our small houses and really I am led to believe the dropping boards are a sort of nuisance, in some houses at least. Let us hear from our readers on this question. Just what the Tanner ventilators are that Mr. Townsend speaks of we do not

know, but they must be a good thing if they work as well for every one as they have for Mr. Townsend.

This has been a very late spring. We were plowing this week for the first time. Last year this time much of the oats was sowed and most of the corn ground plowed. I wonder how many of The Feather's readers work out on the farm and earn their bread and butter by the sweat of their brow.

Don't be afraid of hatching some late chicks this season, as you will not be the only one who will have late hatches. Late hatches are quite profitable if properly cared for and shoved along fast to maturity. One of the best White Rock pullets I raised last season was hatched the last of June or first of July. You would be surprised if you knew how many Madison Square Garden winners were hatched in June and July. Likely more than any other two months in the year. Try some late chicks this year, give them good care and watch results.

Gist of Chicken Raising

We have been called to account by several of our chicken-raising friends because we intimated the other day that it irked us to have some one talk about the vast profits he was making from his hennery.

After discussing the business in all its phases we have realized that our comment was unjust. We never before appreciated what a royal road to wealth leads to and from the chicken coop. It is a simple matter of geometrical progression. The only danger is

that one may attempt too much at the start.

From what we have learned the wise plan is to purchase one reliable hen. When she has laid a dozen eggs set her. You will, in three weeks, have a dozen chicks, of which, say, ten will be hens.

These hens, in turn, lay a dozen eggs each and are set. The result is an average of 10 hens from each sitting. You now have 111 hens working for you. From their sittings you get 1,110 more hens. One more sitting and you should have a grand total of 12,342 hens laying an egg a day for you. You may set all these hens, but it is just as well to be conservative, for their eggs, at an average price of 36 cents a dozen, will give you a daily income of \$370.26.

The natural increase in the flock in six months' time will increase your daily income to \$500, which should satisfy anyone. We are glad to have our opinion of chicken raising thus revised and reversed.—Chicago Post.

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Gentlemen—I send you herewith 50c (stamps accepted) for which kindly send me, carriage prepaid, one copy of Lewis Wright's "New Book of Poultry." It is understood I may examine this work five days, and if I do not wish to keep it I agree to notify you and hold subject to your order, and you are to refund my money. If I decide to keep it I agree to pay the balance of \$8 in monthly installments of \$1 each until settled in full.

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Practical Turkey Culture

Hatching, Housing and Feeding Poult—Range and Preparation for Market in Autumn

Editor The Feather:

The shell of a turkey egg is usually thick, strong and smooth, being free from blotchy excrescences of surplus lime and shell material. If any eggs are found to be thin or of uneven thickness, looking half porous when held toward a strong light, reject such, as they rarely hatch. Neither should the eggs for setting be extra large, or very diminutive, or of abnormal shape. However, turkey eggs generally come very true in shape and size and nearly always of the natural breed tint and markings. Thus it is quite possible to tell the breed of turkeys by the size and color of the eggs.

The best place for the nest is on the ground. A nice nest should be hollowed out and lined with a few dry leaves, fine grass or hay and well protected from surface water and falling rain. The first can be accomplished by making a slight ditch about the nest, the latter by placing an inverted box over the nest. If there is danger of animals molesting the sitting hen, a door can be made of heavy wire mesh and closed at night. If it is for a turkey hen, the nest is often made of a barrel placed on its side and filled one-third full of earth and the nest hollowed in this. There will be moisture enough in the earth to insure a good hatch, usually. If very dry, warm and windy, a slight sprinkling may be necessary sometimes, once or twice, during the last ten days of the hatching period.

Instructions to ignore the nest and setter during the day of hatching so often given by turkey growers is not wise, in our opinion. Sometimes it happens that one or more of the largest poults fail to break off the cap after having chipped the shell entirely around; a second's attention at the right time may mean one or more fine living poults. At any rate it can do no possible harm to see and know the state of affairs in the hatching nest. It must always be kept in mind that the turkey in a state of nature and the turkey on the farm after two hundred or more years of domestication, is an entirely different bird and must be given more care and often different treatment.

However, it will be wise to try and get back to the natural fowl and usage as soon as possible, and when that is accomplished more and better birds will be annually grown. And of course, that means at a larger profit to the grower and probably a lower price to the buyer.

Young poults are both tender and hardy, and if conditions are proper they ought all to live. If they must battle against lice, mites, rains and wet, dewy grass, improper food or wrongly fed, it will be no wonder if the whole brood dies long before they are even old enough for fryers.

A good turkey mother often hovers her brood until the sun comes up and dries up the dew or the rain that has fallen during the night. Others have apparently lost all turkey wit and start at day break to drag their poults around through the long, wet grass and weeds. Such hens must be confined at night, fed early in the morning, but not released until about eight or nine o'clock when the dew is nearly all gone. Then the roaming will do them good if the little poults are not run off their legs.

The secret of properly feeding poults

is to give only food that would be all right for a newly hatched chick. It may be stale bread, soaked in milk or water and squeezed dry to a crumbly state; the same mixed with hard-boiled eggs chopped fine, an omelet made of eggs, bread or cracker crumbs and milk or any good chick food; or it may be a dry grain chick food of proper size to be readily eaten by the young poults. If with a turkey hen, once or twice a day will be often enough to feed, as they wander so much that a large part of their living comes from a natural source. This is the turkey's natural method of feeding and we have known very many cases where the finest success followed the method.

Poults are not large feeders while small, only too many people make a serious mistake in overfeeding them. The fatal disease known as black head doubtless more often follows liberal feeding and close confinement upon none too clean a soil. It matters not if turkeys are new to the ground, or if the chickens or other domestic fowls are kept upon the land, the disease can still be perpetuated and a source of great loss. Men talk about the germs of the disease being transmitted in embryo form through the egg. This may be so, yet we, in a long series of years, never knew it to occur when eggs were hatched and poults reared on clean new ground or upon ground where no domestic fowls had been kept for a number of years. Better let your poults show a decided appetite for food than to stuff them at frequent intervals. The enlarging of the diseased liver will soon result and death closes the chapter. Learn a lesson here from nature who feed the poults sparingly in May, June and July and liberally upon the advent of the cooler autumn months.

The finest flock ever grown by the writer ate less, perhaps, than any other. They picked up their own living from the fields and pastures, some never receiving a feeding until late in October when rounded in for winter care and sale. They can handle a good lot of food during the early autumn and winter months without serious results, yet it is best not to over-feed them if intended for breeders. We know many people who demand extreme weights and get them, but it is at the loss of health and stamina.

If a roast for Thanksgiving or Christmas is to be the end of the poult, the last four weeks of its life can be one round of feasting upon all that is highly nutritious and strong in fat production. Cornmeal scalded in boiling milk or fed with cold milk is a standard diet. Whole corn may be given. The corn will be better if clean, bright stuff, of a year old, as it is not so apt to cause bowel trouble. Wheat and corn boiled until soft, fed in the morning is good. The flock should be taught and induced to roam as little as possible at this time—the flesh will be more tender and juicy. It may not be possible to prevent them from going some without loss in appetite and flesh, especially in great ranging breeds like the Bronze. More domestic breeds such as White Hollands, Buffs and like breeds, can be more readily confined to fatten and finish.

Birds intended for future breeders should not be overfed, even if intended to show at winter shows. It will be a very serious mistake if their future usefulness is spoiled by overfeeding.

Better let merit, not meat and fat, win out or lose as the case may be. The man whose birds give a good account of themselves from year to year as breeders will always have an outlet from his surplus stock at good prices and he will not need to strive to show them in fat stock show condition.

In conclusion let us say that perhaps the very thing you wish to know has not been touched upon in this series of articles. It would be impossible to speak of everything in the space we have used, and if there is anything you want more light upon, and you will write your wants, our knowledge is at the disposal of readers of The Feather free of charge. If we can help you we will be only too glad to do so, for it is, after all, more the pleasure we get out of the work by being of some use in the world, that actuates many of us more than the money that can be placed to our credit in some bank. The man or woman who can at the end of the year look back and say that this or that person had been "given a lift" on the way toward prosperity can most surely say that year had not been passed in vain.—George Enty.

Preparing Fowls for Market

Provision dealers are so anxious to secure the most attractive looking poultry that many of the larger houses send out printed instructions as to killing and packing. Birds should have no feed for from twelve to twenty-four hours and no water for eight hours before killing. Hang by the feet, insert a sharp knife in the mouth and cut the vein at the back of the throat. Then run the point of the knife through the roof of the mouth toward the brain. Instant paralysis and loosening of the feathers follow. If dry picking is practiced, it is easily done at this time, before the bleeding stops. After the bird is thoroughly cooled it may be packed in ice.

If it be scalded before picking, immerse three or four times in nearly boiling hot water and pick quickly, taking care not to break the skin. Plump by plunging in nearly boiling water for ten seconds, then in ice water for fifteen minutes, then pack in ice. If the bird be sold dry, hang up and dry thoroughly. Packing box or barrel should be lined with clean, unprinted paper, and if ice is used pack tightly with alternate layers of ice and fowl, using ice on the top and bottom. As much as three to five cents difference in the price paid for poultry is made on account of salable appearance—Coleman's Rural World.

Business World

The Rhode Island Red Journal is an attractive publication, and a worthy exponent of this popular breed of fowls. Those of our readers who are interested in the Reds should by all means have a copy of same. Send for particulars to the Rhode Island Red Journal, Readlyn, Iowa.

We want our readers to note the ad. of F. Christman, Sellersville, Pa., in this issue, and we believe, if you are looking for Single Comb White Leghorns or eggs for hatching, he has what you want. Mr. Christman has made a business and study of these business fowls, and can supply your wants in every particular. His success with them is very pronounced.

Another of the attractive specialty magazines to reach us is The Ancona

World, Franklinville, N. Y. Such a publication can but help spread the gospel about these active fowls, and we trust that those desiring information about them will write the above.

The mating list for the season of 1912, of Bown's Columbian Plymouth Rocks, is issued, and those desiring a copy of same should immediately send for one. Mr. Bown is enthusiastic about his birds, and is of the opinion that they have a great future before them. His strain is the Clemo Columbian Plymouth Rocks. Address Lewis H. Bown, Cazenovia st., East Aurora, N. Y.

The Poultry Index of Stoughton, Mass., is publishing in its April and May issues a list of the First Prize Winners at the most representative shows of the country. These lists are prepared under classes, breeds and varieties so that one may readily determine who are the foremost blue ribbon winners of every kind of bird.

This is a work which puts special emphasis upon winners of the first prize and points out which are the most famous shows.


This form of indexical work has been employed in England for some time, and with some 2,000 poultry exhibitions being held annually in the United States it seems as if some such compilation of the leaders will serve a good end here. Twenty-one shows that are considered most representative of their respective sections have been selected in this first list that the Index has attempted.

The caponizing of chickens is a very ancient custom, the practice being general two thousand years ago. In comparatively recent times Columbus doubtless ate them, and Shakespeare writing of the Justice, whose fat belly was "with good capon lined," grew hungry for the delectable dish as he wrote.

It is pretty well settled that if a practice of this kind persists century after century there is something in it, and Mr. Chicken Raiser, believe us, that "something" is money. Capons are easy to make, easy to care for, easy to sell at good prices.

Remember that it is the first few

**The Same Amount
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**CAPON
8lbs**

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4½ lbs**

**I Bring 30c
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15c Per Pound**

pounds of chicken that cost the most to feed. Remember that the capon's only interest in life is to grow big and fat. He is a bird of one idea; he has no side issues; he dreams of neither love nor war; just stays 'round to grow and make money for you.

If you will do your part he will do his and yours consists of writing to G. P. Pilling & Son Co., 23d and Arch Sts., Philadelphia, Pa., for a set of instruments and a book of instructions. If you would rather sell fat capons at a very high price than thin, long-legged, tough roosters at a very low price, then write today.

SOUTHERN NEWS ITEMS

By T. D. SIMMONS

Charlotte, N. C., is situated in the Piedmont region of North Carolina, midway between Washington and Atlanta, Ga. There are some of the best poultry farms in the South located here, and more people becoming interested every year. The city supports one poultry supply store, and judging from the new fanciers who visit this store every week and purchase incubators, etc., there will be several hundred breeders of fancy poultry here within the next year. Below we will try and give an idea of some of the places around Charlotte and in Mecklenburg County.

The Y. M. C. A. has a poultry club and in Willie Hannon they have a good leader.

Carlton Best, secretary of the Buff Cochins Club, has a large lot of Cochins and Light Brahmas.

In Dr. Shaw the city has a fine minister and fancier. Dr. Shaw breeds some nice Minorcas, Anconas, Rocks and Orpingtons.

Warden Bros. have a nice farm close in and have several breeds of fine birds. Everybody knows Uncle Ned and Uncle Joe.

Two of the leading papers here run a regular poultry page every week. They are edited by old poultrymen and are doing their part toward promoting the industry.

Mr. C. H. Hackney and Mr. Jno. Threat are great rivals in the plumping business, but when there is a chicken meeting they are like twin brooders. Hack breeds White Leghorns and Mr. Threat Brown Leghorns.

Flynn Elliot breeds everything from a white rabbit to a goose. He has about five hundred head of stock on his place, nine miles from the city. Mr. J. E. Thomas, in the same section, has a large lot of Leghorns.

Mr. R. J. Davis, at Chatham Dairy, breeds White Leghorns for eggs. He has about five hundred layers and uses the Corning plan. He also breeds fine hogs and has one of the best places in the South for poultry and hogs.

Capt. Tom Rowland and Engineer Alf. Soloman are two of the passenger trainmen who have beautiful homes and fine chicks and ducks. Capt. Tom says there is nothing like the Indian Runner, but Mr. Soloman believes in all kinds of chicks.

There are several other large breeders around this section, but we have not the time nor the space in the Feather to mention them. The outlook for a large bunch of nice birds for the shows is fine and Charlotte breeders will be among the large winners next year.

Hon. Brevard Nixon, some lawyer, buys all the White Wyandottes and first-class eggs he can get this season. He has a large tract of land close to the city, on car line, that he would like to put in thoroughbred chickens for the market. He is around nearly every day talking chickens.

Judge R. L. Simmons, editor of the Southern Poultry Review, breeds Barred Rocks, Minorcas and Black Orpingtons. On his place will be found the cream of the South in the above breeds. His houses are all new and up-to-date. He is the most popular of Southern judges and in all judged twenty-two shows last season.

The Southeastern Poultry Association has been organized here and incorporated under the laws of North Carolina. We are working toward

holding the largest show here next year that was ever held in the South. We have the business men and all the fanciers behind it, and on January 3-7, 1913, in the big auditorium, we will have the best and largest show in this country.

Mr. J. C. Patton, editor of the News, and king of the North Carolina White Indian Runner Duck breeders, has a fine home and yards in the western section of the city. He has his place fixed up with all modern appliances and the houses and runs are among the best in this section. He also breeds some good Pheasants and Leghorns. On a recent visit to his place we found a nice lot of Runners and noticed them all in fine quarters and condition.

Mr. O. T. Hollman and C. T. Harry, two good, old-time telegraph operators, have some of the nicest birds in the South. Mr. Hollman breeds only White Leghorns and at present has 1,325 eggs in his incubators. He is one of the back-yard breeders and raises more chicks a year than any of the old-timers. Mr. Harry is one of the new breeders, but he has bought a large incubator and is stocking his place with the best Black Minorcas. Next year he will be in the ring with a nice lot.

March Report of the Missouri Egg Contest

A total of 10,828 eggs is the record for March, or a grand total of 28,673 eggs for the five months. Twenty-seven pens of five hens laid more than 100 eggs each this month. Several pens laid 32 eggs in seven days out of a possible 35 eggs. The pen of R. C. R. I. Reds, owned by D. E. Hall, of California, Mo., won the Golden Egg Cup for March by laying 126 eggs. The Buff Orpingtons went to first place with 421 eggs to their credit for the five months, and the Silver Wyandottes retain second place for the month with 118 eggs and second place for the entire time with 416 eggs as their best record. A Barred Plymouth Rock pullet owned by Miss Lillian C. Adams, of Tipton, Mo., laid an egg every day for 30 consecutive days, and as she was still laying at the close of the month she will probably continue for some time yet. A White Orpington pen of Bailey & Carson's, of Parsons, Kans., laid 55 eggs in 12 days, or 55 eggs out of a possible 60. A Barred Rock pullet from Canada, No. 467, has laid 39 eggs in 48 days, and laid 22 days without missing. Two Buff Cochins pullets owned by Byrd Bryan, of Mercer, Mo., laid 29 eggs each during this month, and one laid 40 eggs in 45 consecutive days, which is considered a good record for a Cochins.

We are now experiencing considerable difficulty in breaking up broody hens. As soon as we discover that they wish to set we put them in a coop with a slatted bottom, and feed them heavily as long as they are in this coop. We don't try to drown the hen in a water barrel, starve her, or mistreat her in any way, as used to be the custom with some, for by such methods you just delay the time when she will begin to lay just that much longer. Most of them we can break from setting in three days, and in a week from the time they show an inclination to become broody, they are laying again, as a rule.

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BARRED ROCK EGGS FOR HATCHING. Cockerel line exclusively. All infertile eggs replaced. Eggs from pens headed by 4th Cockerel at Williamsport, 1911; 1st and 2d Cockerel at Germantown, 1912. \$2 and \$3 per 15. W. S. Stokes, Edgemont, Pa.

WYANDOTTES

"REGAL" WHITE WYANDOTTES "DUSTON." Direct from Martin. Stay white. Chicks: 20 cents; 100, \$15. Eggs: 15, \$1.50; 50, \$4; 100, \$6. Elwood Taylor, Berwyn, Md.

WYANDOTTES — BOYD'S WASHINGTON Strain of Black Wyandottes are still winning. Stock and eggs for sale. Write for circular and prices. Geo. H. Boyd, 1255 Morse St. N. E., Washington, D. C.

WYANDOTTES—STOCK AND EGGS TO sell from winners of White Wyandottes at Washington. Warrenton, Richmond, etc. Circular giving winnings and prices sent on request. W. W. Thomas, Catlett, Va.

1,000 PURE DUSTON WHITE WYANDOTTES, raised on 50-acre farm, 20 yards, mated for eggs. Get prices on your wants. Allen Sechrist, Port Trevorton, Pa.

LEGHORNS

BREEDING S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS. Exclusive eggs for sale, \$2 per 15, or \$5 per 100. Satisfaction guaranteed. John M. Yerger, Gilbertsville, Pa.

ROSE COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—WINNERS at Madison Square, Buffalo and Rochester. Mating list and circular. Eight grand pens. Box F, Howard J. Fisk, Falconer, N. Y.

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The pen of Buff Orpington pullets which leads the entire contest at the present time were all bred from one hen. Three years ago, Miss Follows had five varieties of poultry. Her family insisted that she must get rid of four varieties, and stick to one. She had quite a number of each of the other varieties, but had only one Buff Orpington hen. She said to the family she would not part with this hen for all the rest of the flock. This hen had laid nearly twice as many eggs as any other. She had made such a remarkable record that Miss Follows was willing to part with a whole flock instead of this one hen. She got rid of all others, kept this hen and bred from her, and this pen of five pullets, which leads 131 pens from all parts of the United States and Canada, is the result. Was the trouble which she went to in discovering and breeding from such a hen worth while? Was she not wise in turning down four varieties and the entire flock for this one hen? Select the variety of your choice, for no one variety can claim all the good points, and then strive to improve it in both beauty and productiveness.

The executive board has given valuable advice on several occasions when called upon. If any mistakes are made in any particular, none of it can be blamed or charged to the executive board or the State Poultry Board. I am to be personally blamed for all errors or mistakes made, but have been trying to conduct the contest honestly and fairly to all parties concerned. The members of the executive board are: R. C. Lawry, Pacific, Mo.; Profs. S. T. Campbell, Mansfield, Ohio; F. S. Jacoby, Columbus, Ohio; W. A. Lippincott, Manhattan, Kans.; A. G.

Phillips, Lafayette, Ind.; N. E. Chapman, Owatonna, Minn.; J. G. Halpin, Madison, Wis., and D. O. Barto, Urbana, Ill.

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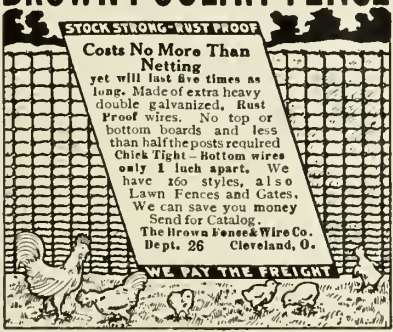
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Vol. XVI. No. 6
JUNE, 1912

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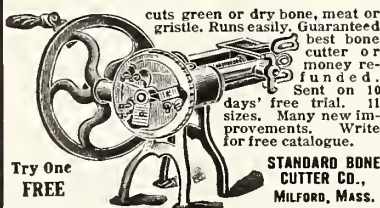
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A FRESH-AIR BROODER

It is a general experience that loss of chicks during the early period of their life in brooders is apt to be large, despite the utmost care and attention. The mortality of brooder chicks has therefore been the subject of considerable investigation by the experiment stations. Raymond Pearl, of the Maine station, has come to the conclusion that the trouble is in part at least due to fundamental defects in the ordinary type of bottom-heat hot-air brooder commonly used, viz., (1) too much floor heat, (2) poor ventilation, and (3) inconvenience, expense, and wear and tear of moving the brooders about when they "are operated in small colony houses, and the same houses are used for growing the chickens on the range throughout the summer."

As a result of comparative tests of different makes of brooders, a brooder was designed which it is believed has decided advantages over ordinary types. The advantages claimed are "that it is possible to rear in this brooder a larger number of chicks in proportion to the number originally put in than in any other brooder with which the station has had any experience." The mortality is not only relatively low, but the chicks are healthier and thriftier. "The second advantage lies in the great saving of labor which is effected by the use of the new brooder. The fact that the brooder never has to be removed from the house where it is operated, means a decided economy."

Describing the construction of this brooder it is stated that the primary point aimed at was to make it a "fresh-air" and a "pure-air" brooder. With this idea in mind it was thought ad-

visable to make the walls of the brooder in some degree permeable to air. To meet this requirement the walls and cover of the brooder are made of cloth. Essentially the brooder is a cloth box containing a hover of the type in which the lamp fumes are conducted outside of the building by an exhaust pipe.

These brooders are built permanently into the house which they occupy. Two brooders are placed in each colony house, one in each of the back corners of the building. In this way one end wall and the back wall of the building form two of the sides of each brooder. The remaining side and cover are made of cloth tacked on light wooden frames, as shown in the working drawings.

The floor of the brooder stands 10 inches above the floor of the house. From the front of the brooder a sloping walk extends down to the house floor, reaching in width clear across the whole front of the brooder. The cloth front and sides of the brooder are not permanently fixed in position, but are removable panels, which are held together and to the frame work by hooks and eyes (see Fig. 1). The cover is hinged in the middle in such a way that it can be either half opened or entirely opened and folded back out of the way. In consequence of this arrangement it is possible to regulate with great nicety the amount of air which shall be admitted to the brooder. Either the front or the side panel may be tilted out as much as desired at the base, thus admitting air there. Furthermore, by partly opening a panel and the cover it is possible to insure that there shall be a circulation

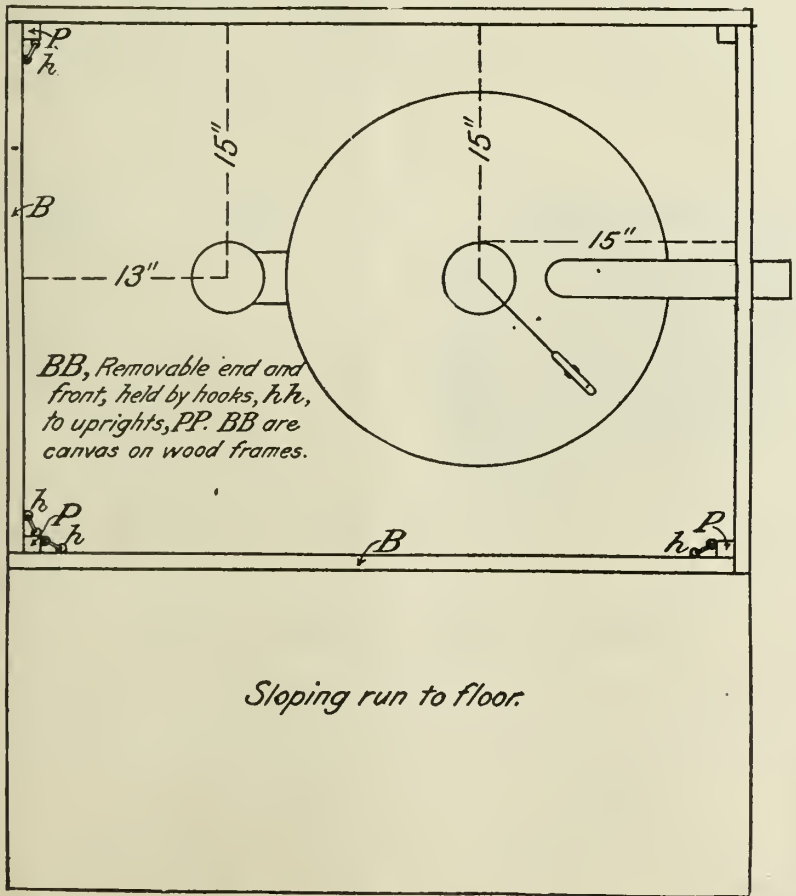


Fig. 1.—Floor plan of fresh-air brooder.

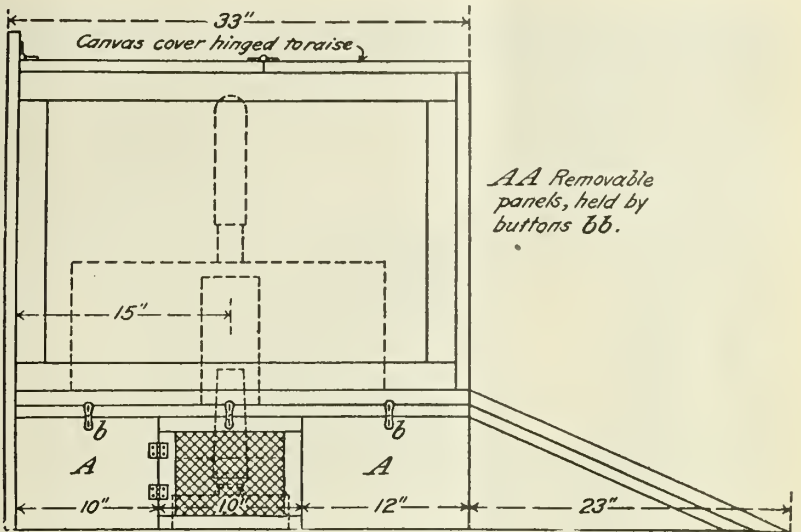


Fig. 2.—End elevation of brooder. Note sloping run to floor, hinged cover, removable side panel AA on base of brooder. In the center of this is a small door made of 1/4-inch mesh galvanized wire. Through this door the lamp is withdrawn for filling and cleaning. The panel AA is removed when the brooder is dismantled, and the whole superstructure is then packed away under the base.

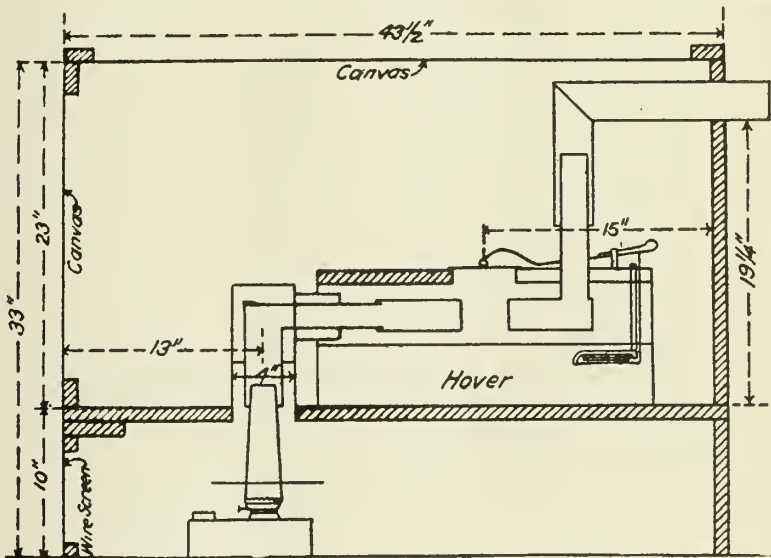


Fig. 3.—Section through middle of brooder. Note cloth cover and side, large space between floor of brooder and floor of house, in which the lamp is placed while the brooder is in operation, and which serves as a storage place for the whole upper part of the brooder when the latter is not in use.

of air through the brooder at all times.

A modification of a common make of hover is used, in which the lamp is placed inside the house directly under the brooder, instead of on a box outside the house.

The reason for this modification is that in this climate, where one is likely to have bad weather during the early part of the hatching and rearing season, with heavy winds, snow and rain, it is much easier and more satisfactory to take care of the lamp inside of the house than from a small box outside the house. Another modification is that in the hovers which are installed in these brooders an especially heavy insulation is put on top of the drum to reduce the loss of heat by radiation in extremely cold weather early in the spring.

One of the essential points about the brooder is its compactness in storage and the fact that all the parts may be stored in the base of the brooder itself. In this way the labor expense of carrying back and forth parts from a storage house each year is avoided. To bring about this result the size of the base is so calculated that all the parts of the brooder may be enclosed in it. The way in which this is done is apparent from an examination of

Fig. 2. It will be seen that the end of the brooder base (marked AA in the diagram) is removable, being held in place by buttons bb. When the end of the brooding season is reached and there is no further use for the brooder that year, the side and front end panel are removed, the canvas cover folded back and tacked to the wall of the building, and the hover dismantled. All of the parts are then shoved under the brooder floor and the panel AA put back in place again. The floor of the brooder is removable, so that it and the floor underneath may be cleaned and disinfected. By removing the legs the hover may be stored in the brooder base along with the other parts, or if one does not desire to do this the hover may be suspended close up to the roof of the building. In that position it will be impossible for the birds to roost on it. Of course, all removable parts should be taken from the hover before it is hung up in this way. These parts may be stored in the brooder base. After the chickens are out of the house in the fall the parts of the brooder are taken out, thoroughly cleaned and disinfected, and then the whole is reassembled and made ready for the hatching season of the next year.

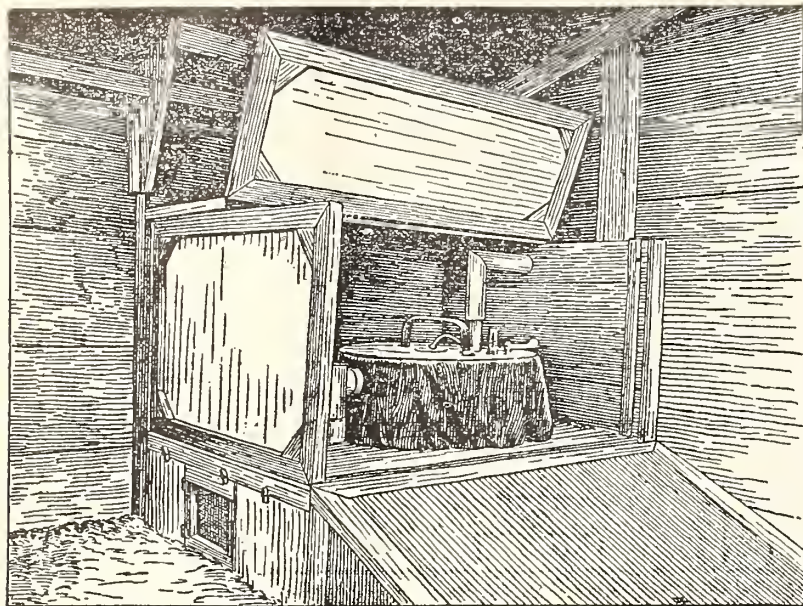


Fig. 4.—Brooder installed and ready for operation.

Detailed working drawings of the brooder are given herewith. Fig. 2 shows the end elevation of the brooder; Fig. 3 shows a section through the middle of the brooder; Fig. 1 shows a floor plan; Fig. 4 shows the brooder in operation. All dimensions are given on these drawings and from them it should be possible for anyone to construct the brooder for himself.

As material, any sort of planed lumber may be used. Probably pine will be found satisfactory and economical in most cases. Spruce or hemlock may be used to build the base, if one desires. For the cover and removable sides almost any sort of cloth may be used. Here we have employed the lightest weight canvas (duck) that could be obtained locally. Burlap may be used, or even unbleached cotton cloth in localities where the outside temperature is not too low.

Those Egg-Laying Contests

Last fall when the Missouri, Philadelphia and Connecticut egg laying contests were subjects of discussion, I made the assertion that while I had no means of judging their practical value I believed they would hardly prove of great practical worth. I have hardly changed my ideas after six months trial of them and the records. In fact, I think the results are conclusive evidence of their impracticability. I don't mean that they will not aid poultry men in any way; but so far as doing what many believed they would do—decide which breed, strain or individual was the best layer—they have all signally failed. And shall we wonder at the results?

Today we seem to have the egg laying contest fast well begun. Several other contests are on besides those above mentioned, and one well known poultry journal is even parent of another. Every one of the poultry press is giving more or less space to articles and results upon these contests. And the thing is hardly begun.

Now, I believe these contests are going to be a very good thing for the utility man in general and a very poor thing for him individually; because they are going to cause some pretty caustic remarks relative to the egg value of certain breeds, varieties or strains, and this is both good and bad. For instance, we have always read and been told of the exceptionally fine egg

records of Leghorns, and that they were the most profitable fowls to keep as layers; also most egg breeders keep them in large flocks. In fact, I have secured a record of 215 eggs per bird in one year (from May 1, 1908, to May 1, 1909) from a pen of 6 R. C. Brown Leghorns in a back lot on very ordinary care, feed and housing. For the five months from November 1, 1911, to April 1, 1912, the Leghorns made an exceptionally poor showing in the Missouri contest, but led all breeds in the Connecticut contest with a total of 412 eggs. This means 82.8 eggs per bird for five months, or at the rate of something over 195 per bird per year (if they lay for twelve months as for past five) for the best pens in the contest. Many are laying less than 50 per cent of this, on special care, feed and housing.

On the other hand, the heavy breeds are making a very much better showing than even breeders of them have usually claimed. This is exceptionally true of the Orpingtons, Rhode Island Reds, Wyandottes and Rocks, which are making strong showings in both the Missouri and Connecticut contests in entirely separate climates, etc. In the Missouri contest the egg records of nearly all breeds run higher than in the East, but I'm not prepared to say this is true among breeders and poultry men. In fact, I am doubtful if this will be true. Here, then, we have some object lessons from these contests.

Take the Leghorns, for example. The best record for a pen in the Connecticut contest for five months is 412 eggs. In the Missouri contest it is 293 eggs. Are we to believe this record authoritative? If so, Leghorns will hardly be bred in the West longer. We may say these are winter records. Even so, if the Leghorn is to be a paying bird she must give us winter eggs and more than 293 in five months for five birds.

Then take the heavier breeds. The Orpington has led, with but occasionally a R. I. Red exception, all breeds in Missouri. In the Eastern contests the Reds lead. For example, the best pen of Orpingtons in Missouri laid a total of 419 eggs in five months, or an average of almost 84 eggs per bird for five months. The Reds, Wyandottes and Rocks follow in order; the best pens giving an average of 79.8, 75.2, 64.2 eggs per bird, respectively, for the five months. All of these are pretty high records for big breeds. In the Connecticut contest the best pens of these same breeds scored, respec-

tively, 72, 71.2, 68.6 for the five months, viz., Rose Comb and Single Comb Reds, Wyandottes, Orpingtons, while the Rocks scored just over 50 eggs per bird. My Rocks at this time averaged 66 per bird in the old basement of my barn.

I am surprised at the low yield given Black Minorcas and Indian Runner Ducks. My egg yield for Minorcas was the lowest this year it has ever been, owing to our very severe winter and a very cold house. But my egg record on Minorcas is considerably above my Rock record and above the Missouri record. My Indian Runners I bought the last of January, and they were shipped several hundred miles, so did not begin laying till March. I also fed them no mashes until well into March, which kept down the egg record. In April I got 136 eggs from pen of five ducks and I am waiting for the April record in contests.

OSCAR F. SAMPSON.

Sicilian Buttercups

Sicilian Buttercups are coming to the front. Over 100 prominent fanciers have now become intensely interested in this new utility fowl, which seems to be making good the claim of producing more eggs at a less cost than any other known variety. In size and style of carriage Buttercups are about with Leghorns, but not of so wild and nervous a disposition. They are absolutely non-sitters and abundant producers of handsome large, white eggs. The comb is the most distinguishing feature, consisting of a circular crown of bright red spikes, resembling the petals of a flower. On March 28, at Binghamton, N. Y., was organized the American Buttercup Club, where the following officers were elected: President, H. W. Dewey, Sidney Center, N. Y.; vice president, Mrs. Jas. S. Dumaresq, Easton, Md.; secretary-treasurer, I. F. Tillingham, Factoryville, Pa. Board of directors: A. B. Browe, Corbettsville, N. Y.; Thos. P. Hallock, Medina, Ohio; B. Van Vrankin, Union City, Mich.; D. S. Thornburg, Cherryville, N. C.; J. E. Lovett, Little Silver, N. J. Committee on standard: John Aldrich, Springfield, Mass.; C. C. Loring, Dedham, Mass.; A. B. Browe, Corbettsville, N. Y.

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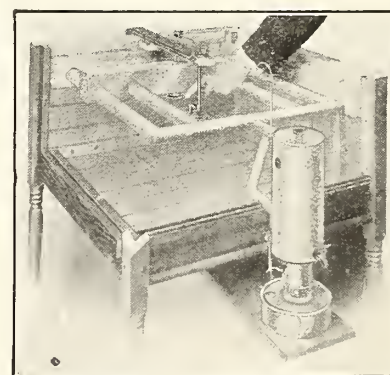
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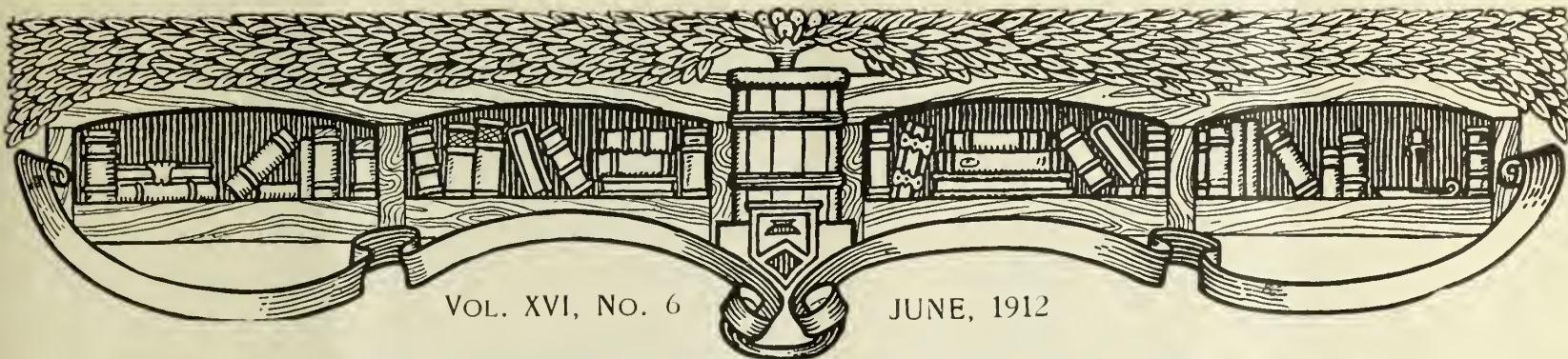
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Mercer, Pa.



Editorial Comment

There is, of course, a reason for the large consumption of eggs in towns and cities. Eggs are of great food value, and they make an attractive and substantial breakfast for the man who must go early in the morning to his work. In the large cities it is very noticeable to one who hunts for the information, that there is a very large increase of eggs and egg sandwiches among the laboring people for their noonday lunch. Eggs have grown constantly in demand, and they are a preferred article of food. The supply has never equalled the demand, and prices instead of decreasing have gradually increased in the past few years.

* * *

Spooning is the pastime of a pair of willy nillys.

* * *

This is a very gratifying state of affairs to the poultryman, and has greatly increased his interest in the business. The outlook is very bright for the hen and her products for many years yet to come, and there is hardly a chance in sight for overproduction in this lucrative business. The hen is a fixture in the commercial world at the present time, and those who know how to handle her to advantage are the ones to reap the reward. If you will study the situation thoroughly, and develop the fine points of production of eggs, the more firmly will you be convinced as to these facts. Begin now and prepare for the start next fall. Get your birds laying early and keep them at it all winter.

* * *

When a man does something he is then entitled to all that is coming his way.

* * *

There is just one point that should not be overlooked by the poultryman at the present time, and that one point is to keep the youngsters growing. Every effort that is spent along these lines will be doubly repaid in the fall. The youngsters must grow if they are to amount to anything later on, and there should be no detail overlooked to make them grow. Keep after them all the time, and if they do not develop as rapidly as they should under your present system, find out the reason and remedy it as soon as you can. The birds which pay are those that develop rapidly and reach maturity by the early route. The early fall should see them ready for the laying pens, and in the pink of condition for the cold and long winter season. Look your flocks over carefully and see if you can not help them along. Now is the time to begin, and a month or so will be too late.

* * *

The protein in bugs and worms as found by the fowls at large seems to suit their purpose far better than does any other brand. As oats are the best

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for the horse, so animal food of some kind is almost an absolute necessity for fowls. The selecting of the best is of importance. Some kinds of meat-meals or scraps have a very low per cent of protein, while others go to thirty-six or over per cent protein, and we are told that granulated blood has ninety per cent protein. In the use of these meat preparations it is well to know that blood is made of protein; lean meat and the solid part of the body are largely built up from protein, starch and other foods making the heat and fat.

The white of the egg, the albumen, comes as a product from protein. Meat seems to come the nearest to live bugs and worms for the hen to produce this albumen from, so in the feeding of meat the per cent of protein should be considered. Meat preparations that show only ten per cent protein are usually of no value to the hen for she will never get more than an ounce of the meat at a time and one-tenth of an ounce in protein would scarcely keep up the blood supply, let alone help to make albumen; at the same time if fed the granulated blood with ninety per cent protein it might be possible to waste the expensive material by giving more than is demanded for their purpose.

* * *

When a fellow thinks he is the only one on earth it is high time for another flood.

A one-to-five ration is considered by the English the best for laying hens, so if we see to it that the proper amount of the food is protein they should do good work. It is all-important that she should have fully enough at all times for the work she has to do; at the same time it is a waste of expensive foods to give her more than she actually needs for her demands. Wheat is a one-to-seven ration, oats, one-to-six, while corn is a one-to-nine ration. When these grains are used the hen should have all the time during the winter months meat enough to fully balance the ration for egg production. If we will see to it that our hens have some cut alfalfa hay to pick the leaves from all winter they will do better at winter egg production.

* * *

Regularity in all things is a safe rule to follow. If we will be regular as to time and attention with feeding and caring for our fowls they will be more regular in the producing of eggs. The feeding of hens is so simple that we neglect the slight demand for consideration and quite too often throw them that kind of food that is close at hand, rather than to take the trouble to select and feed them that which will do them the most good.

* * *

If the weather is quite cold and the ground all under snow we are quite likely to neglect the use of the bone cutter just when most needed. Those very cold days we neglect not only the bone cutter but the water pan, and overlook the fact that more litter is needed in the pens; at the very time when most attention is needed we are the most likely to neglect them. The greater the variety of grains and other foods the fowls can have the better will they do in winter, providing the grains are well selected and given them in the proper manner. Those who fill the feed troughs with grain kill the fowls with kindness, and get but few eggs from their idle, over-fat, lazy hens. One-half the amount thrown to them in deep straw to hunt and dig after would produce health, vigor and eggs. All this belongs to management and care in feeding, and proper care and consideration save feed and add to the egg yield. It is a remarkable statement, but yet it is true that often we might have double the eggs from half the food we are feeding if we would mix the grain with a lot of digging on the part of the hens. Cut green bone is most valuable for hens. There is no other one or two kinds of food half so good for them; it contains animal food, bone and lime, also fat, all of which aid in the production of eggs, add strength and vigor to the fowl, and help to balance the grain ration. If the hens have plenty of clover, cut green bone, oats, wheat and cracked corn they must lay eggs providing they are compelled to dig hard for the grain.



The Handling and Marketing of Eggs

By HARRY M. LAMON

Junior Animal Husbandman, Animal Division, Bureau of Animal Industry, Department of Agriculture*

THE great egg and poultry producing territories of the United States can be divided according to their geographical location and the character of the industry into three quite distinct sections. The first of these comprises the northeastern States, including New England, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Maryland. This is a section in which the poultry industry is one of importance and where many large and specialized poultry farms are located. Inasmuch as it also happens to be the greatest consuming section of poultry products, the local production of eggs does not supply the demand, and large quantities are brought in from other parts of the country. The proximity of the poultry farms of this section to the large markets enables the poultrymen to dispose of their products readily, and it is natural that they should cater to the discriminating trade demanding a fine quality of fresh eggs. The whole tendency, therefore, is for the eggs to be shipped in small lots by express or fast freight, so as to reach the market in a short time after they are produced. These are consumed in a relatively brief time, and comparatively few eggs in this section find their way into cold storage.

The second egg-producing section comprises the States bordering the Pacific. Here the conditions are in many respects identical with those of the first section. The eggs produced all find a market in the cities of those States and the quantity is not sufficient to supply the demand. Here, also, many large poultry farms are located.

The third section comprises principally States lying in the Mississippi Valley. They are Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Texas. It is in this great section that the vast majority of the eggs of the country are produced. Yet the character of the poultry keeping is quite different from that in the other two sections discussed. There are in this whole stretch of country few farms which can properly be termed "poultry farms," or where poultry raising can be considered to be one of the

main branches of the farm work. The great bulk of the eggs is the product of the flocks of hens which are kept on practically every general farm throughout the whole area. These farms are devoted mainly to grain growing and live stock, principally cattle and hogs, so that the poultry kept is incidental, and the eggs produced are really in the nature of a by-product of the farm.

Not much systematic care is given to the hens on these farms, and, as a result, the great majority of the eggs come in the spring and summer. Also, this section is not one of heavy consumption, and in consequence during the summer and spring many more eggs are produced than are needed locally. Only a few years ago this great surplus production resulted in such a glut and lowering of prices that in many instances it did not pay to take the eggs to town during the spring and summer, while in the fall and winter eggs were scarce and very high. With the cold storage of eggs the conditions have changed. During the spring, when production is heavy, the eggs are bought up and placed in storage, to be taken out when the period of scarcity comes in the fall and winter.

As a result of storage there has been greater equali-

zation of supply and demand throughout the year, and, what is of more importance to the farmer, the majority of whose eggs are produced in the spring, a maintenance of prices during that period much above what they were before the days of storage.

LOSS DUE TO FAULTY METHODS.

In spite of the fact, however, that prices are better than they were formerly, the producers are not receiving as much for their eggs as they should, considering the ultimate prices paid by the consumers of these eggs. This is not the result of any combination on the part of buyers to keep prices down, for competition is usually sharp enough to cause as much to be paid as the buyers can afford. The real reason lies in the fact that the system of marketing and buying eggs in this section is faulty and causes a good deal of preventable loss and deterioration. This is mainly because no incentive is offered for care and expeditious handling of the product. In other words, the careful farmer who markets good eggs as a rule gets no more for them than his careless neighbor who markets poor ones. As a result of this loss, prices paid to producers must be depressed to cover it, and this accounts for the difference between the prices paid for these eggs and the prices charged the consumers.

At first glance it might be thought that this loss and deterioration was slight and of minor importance. Quite the contrary, however, is the case. From a careful study made of the situation, it appears that the annual loss resulting from these sources in the egg trade of the country totals about 15 per cent of the value of the product, or \$45,000,000. In the State of Kansas alone, where the investigations of the Department have been principally carried on, the annual loss is estimated at more than \$1,000,000. The table below shows some specific figures. It is a condensed report of the total receipts of three Kansas egg buyers during the months of July, August, and September, 1910, showing the number of "rots" thrown out as the result of candling, as well as the number of "seconds" and "checks" in two instances each month.



Better Than the Average Kind

Loss in eggs received by three Kansas buyers in summer months of 1910.

Month	Local - ity	Total receipts	Firsts		Seconds		Checks		Rots	
		Dozens	Dozens	P. ct.	Dozens	P. ct.	Dozens	P. ct.	Dozens	P. ct.
July	A	223,230	207,240	92.9					15,990	7.1
	B	100,899	60,644	60.2	27,900	27.6	5,057	5.0	7,298	7.2
	C	36,600	28,970	79.2	5,136	14.0			2,494	6.8
August	A	160,320	133,620	83.5					26,700	16.6
	B	71,430	45,055	63.1	17,265	24.1	3,503	4.9	5,607	7.8
	C	46,500	31,151	67.0	8,997	19.3	1,978	4.2	4,374	9.4
September	B	42,710	29,659	69.5	8,460	19.8	2,083	4.8	2,508	5.8
	C	24,880	17,260	69.4	5,253	21.1	889	3.5	1,478	5.9
Total		706,569	553,599	78.3	73,011	10.3	13,510	1.9	66,449	9.4

The total receipts were 706,569 dozen. At 15 cents a dozen the value of the total receipts would be \$105,985.35. On the basis of 6 cents a dozen less for seconds and checks than for firsts, the loss due to this class would be \$5,191.26. The 66,449 dozen rots are an absolute loss of \$9,967.35. The total loss, therefore, from eggs thrown out and those deteriorated in quality is \$15,158.61, or 14.3 per cent of the original value.

THE COMMON METHOD OF MARKETING EGGS IN THE MIDDLE WEST.

To explain the reason for this loss and deterioration it is necessary to outline briefly the usual method of marketing eggs in this section.

The eggs, as previously stated, are produced on the general farm. The income from these is considerable and very welcome, but is, after all, incidental. The care and attention given the fowls and the product are, therefore, usually incidental also. The farmer gathers the eggs whenever convenient; sometimes each day, sometimes two or three times a week. The eggs are brought to the house and kept until there is a sufficient number to take to the village or until the farmer makes a trip to the village for some other purpose and takes the eggs along. No particular attention is given to the conditions under which the eggs are kept in the meantime. They may be put in a pantry or cupboard of the kitchen, where the temperature is comparatively high and where the eggs are bound to undergo considerable deterioration in quality or to reach a more or less advanced stage of actual spoiling. Even in those cases where the importance of a low temperature is realized and an effort made to secure this by placing the eggs in a cellar, there is likelihood that the cellar may be damp, and the eggs in consequence become moldy. Likewise, no particular effort is made to obtain clean eggs by proper attention to the nests and by

frequent gathering, or to separate the clean from the soiled eggs when taking them to market. Whenever a nest of eggs is discovered in the weeds or about the barn they are usually added to the eggs in the market basket without question as to whether they are partly incubated.

As a result, the farmer may start for town with a basket of eggs, part of which are perfectly fresh and wholesome, part of them dirty or smeared, and part of them shrunken or stale or even wholly spoiled. During the drive to town it is a common occurrence for the eggs to be exposed to the direct rays of the sun for an hour or two and subjected therefore to a temperature greater than the normal temperature of incubation, 103° F. These eggs the farmer takes to the village store and receives for them a certain price per dozen, which is usually given in trade. The village merchant is not a dealer in eggs from choice, but rather because he feels it necessary to take the eggs in order to keep the trade of the farmer. If he does not take the eggs he fears that the farmer will offer them to one of his competitors and will in consequence be likely to give that competitor the bulk of his trade. For the same reason the merchant believes that he must accept the eggs as they run, good or bad, fresh or stale, clean or dirty, for if he does not his competitors will. This system of buying by the storekeeper is known as the case-count system.

The merchant holds the eggs until he has enough to make a shipment to some dealer or shipper from whom he gets regular quotations. The delay here may be anywhere from two days to a week or even two weeks. Usually the conditions attendant upon the shipment of these eggs up to the time they reach the packing house are such as to cause a still further deterioration in the eggs. After they reach the packing house they are assembled in great enough numbers so that more attention and care is given their handling, and although the eggs go through one or more sets of hands from this point before they are placed in storage or reach the consumer, the deterioration which they undergo is not so great proportionately.

DELAY IN MOVING EGGS.

It will be observed that the one unfavorable factor which stands out most prominently in this system of marketing is the delay in moving the eggs. There is delay in gathering the eggs, delay in taking them to town, and delay on the part of the storekeeper. Whenever these delays are coincident with high temperature, serious loss and deterioration result. This is evidenced by the poor quality of summer eggs.

The spoiled and deteriorated eggs compose several well-recognized classes, most common among which are the following: Heated eggs, those caused by the development of the embryo in fertile eggs; shrunken eggs, those in which a part of the water has evaporated from the white, causing a large air cell; rots, those which are totally spoiled; spots, those with localized areas of

bacterial or mold infection; dirty eggs, those soiled with mud, droppings, or the contents of broken eggs; and checks, those slightly cracked.

While there is some deliberate delay in the fall, caused by the farmers holding their eggs on a rising market, the majority of the delays are due simply to indifference and consequently are preventable. The country stores are directly responsible for the delay, both on their own part and on the part of the farmer, because of the case-count system of buying which they employ. This system has nothing to recommend it aside from the fact that it is a little less trouble to the storekeeper. On the other hand, it encourages carelessness and delay on the part of the farmer, because it inflicts no penalty for poor or bad eggs. It has even bred in some farmers (who would not expect to sell damaged vegetables or grain for full value) a feeling that an injustice is being worked on them if a buyer candles the eggs and refuses to pay for those which are rotten.

As a result, therefore, of the delays and carelessness, coupled with high temperatures, there is, in connection with the handling and marketing of eggs in the Middle West, a great loss, which, because preventable in a great measure, is a wanton waste. This loss is borne both by producer and consumer, but falls mainly on the former. The consumer suffers considerably in being unable to secure good palatable eggs in sufficient quantity, and in consequence there is a curtailment of consumption. It is only fair to state, also, that these inferior eggs which find their way to the tables of city consumers are often mistaken for a cold-storage product, and the storage industry is thus unjustly discredited.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE FARM EGG.

In an effort to save a large part of this preventable loss or waste, the Bureau of Animal Industry of this Department has undertaken a campaign for the improvement of the farm egg, particularly those produced in the great Middle West. A preliminary survey of the field has already been made, and the results published as Circular 140 of the Bureau of Animal Industry, entitled "The Egg Trade of the United States." This was followed during the summer of 1910 by an active campaign in the field, a report of which has been published as Bureau of Animal Industry Bulletin 141.

(Continued next month.)

*This article is largely an abstract of Bulletin 141 of the Bureau of Animal Industry, "The Improvement of the Farm Egg," by Messrs. Harry M. Lamont and C. L. Opperman. The reader is referred, therefore, to that publication, and also to Circular 140 of the Bureau of Animal Industry, "The Egg Trade of the United States," for more detailed information concerning the matters discussed.



An Attractive Pen



A Bunch of Healthy Youngsters

Practical Side of Pigeon Culture

By SQUAB BREEDER

AS the result of extended research and by presenting foreign experience, we have been able to give to our readers most valuable information in the cultivation of squabs. The Bordeaux, the Carneau, the Mondain and the Chauchois are four of the European varieties that have made great progress in this country. They can be secured on this side, and they are not extraordinarily expensive. If any of our readers are anxious to have any of them, they can be secured through good breeders who have been successful with them.

We have read recently of such an enormous output of squabs from individual plants as to feel called upon to advise our readers to be careful of investing too extensively in squab growing. If you begin at all, do so in a small way, with the assurance that you must learn the business to succeed, and with the knowledge that quite as many fail to succeed. Do not be led blindly into a foolish expenditure that may prove disastrous. Interesting communications along these lines have been published from time to time in our columns, and we have before us a letter which tells of the sorrows of an early experience. This consisted in the trials caused by a hundred pair of what proved to be unmated breeders, with the usual result of broken eggs and destroyed squabs, the unprofitable returns of the first year, with no success until they had read and mastered thoroughly our book, "Money In Squabs," and had gained more than a year's experience. No one can succeed without this experience. The writer states that he had confined himself absolutely to Homers; that he has sixty pairs of breeders at work, all produced from a few pair in two years; that he had sold a large number of squabs during the winter at 50 cents per pair; and that it has become a profitable business.

Another correspondent gives valuable advice about squab culture, and points out the stumbling blocks of danger. We know that the most certain road to destruction is caused by non-mated specimens in the loft. To avoid this one must study the problem of proper mating.

Having examined a considerable number of breeding flocks, among these the Duchess, White Homers, Colored Homers, Homer and Runt crosses, Homer and Hen pigeon crosses, pure Runt, pure Hen pigeon, Carneau and Mondains, pure and crossed with Homers, we believe that the most reasonable, the most sensible, and the most profitable selection for an amateur or for those starting breeding for market are Homers. Select these Homers for size and vigor. Young hen pigeons will not produce the heavy-weight profitable squabs. In addition to this, they must be fed for quick growth. Nothing is better for this than wheat, cracked corn and a few Canada peas. Hemp seed is unnecessary in the loft where market squabs are bred; it is an expensive luxury and of but little benefit to the growing squabs. Plenty of cracked corn, good solid wheat and a few peas are best. Once or twice a day, go into the loft, scatter a little wheat and hulled oats, with a few millet seed mixed in, upon the floor to encourage the birds to eat and feed the young. In this way they may be induced to feed the growing squabs



The Hen Pigeon—A Practical Squab Breeder

as often as five times a day, which increases their growth surprisingly.

The illustrations of the Mondain and Carneau pigeon present shape and color better than we can describe it. We have seen these of a number of broken colors. The shell crest is said to be a necessary adjunct to the French variety. Swiss Mondains are thought to be a cross to the French Mondain and other large size pigeons. The Carneau and the Mondain have been crossed, some of these carrying the shell crest, others without it. The shape of the body, head and shell crest is characteristic of the French Mondain.

In localities where young squabs can not be sold alive to the commission man or the hucksters, they should be killed, dry-picked and sent to market in the most presentable manner. Those who contemplate sending to market large or small lots of squabs during the present summer should thoroughly learn the following lesson: Over eight pounds to the dozen is an absolute necessity; between nine and ten is preferable; under eight means a sure loss in selling.

Well-grown, plump, attractively dressed squabs of the heavier weights bring the top price in the market. As they grow away from this quality, they lose perceptibly in value.

Pairs of breeders that produce the nice-color skin, attractive-appearing squabs should be retained and their offspring grown to maturity and used for future breeders. Specimens producing those having the dark skin and unattractive ap-

pearance should be gradually weeded out as others come forward to take their place. Cultivate handsome appearance for market and you will succeed.

At a recent interview with several publishers, the purchase of mated pairs for squab breeding was the subject discussed. One advanced the statement that it was almost a criminal action to any one to send out a number of squab breeders claiming them to be pairs. The question was asked, "How might this be avoided?" We do not know of a single person who could mate to an absolute certainty twenty-five or fifty pairs of squab breeders simply through selecting by appearance the males and the females. The only absolutely certain way would be to place them in the mating coops and be perfectly sure that they were mated before they were shipped, and then ship each pair in a separate compartment, and request the purchaser when he received them to shut up these mated pairs in coops in his lofts at least a week prior to giving them liberty.

Experience of many years has taught us that this is the only sure method of having mated pairs. We would ask every one interested in the subject whether they believe it possible for this to be done and for purchasers to receive specimens mated in this manner at the prices that are generally paid for squab breeders. We do not question but what many have sent out either knowingly or unknowingly hundreds of specimens, terming them mated pairs. To entirely too many this means two birds for a pair. A pair of birds and an absolutely mated pair of breeders are two different propositions. Those purchasing should understand this to an absolute certainty previous to placing their orders.

On the other hand, if you should take twenty-five pairs of absolutely mated Homers, each and every pair having produced squabs, and placed these twenty-five pairs all together in one coop, box or basket and ship them on a two or three days' journey across the country, we doubt if one-third of them would remain mated when turned loose in their new home. This may almost certainly be depended upon as a fact. In the face of this, how could any one hope to receive fifty pairs that have been actually mated for a day or two, and hope that they would continue to be mated pairs at the end of a journey, in a strange loft. The only way to be absolutely certain of having mated pairs is to receive them in separate compartments, and place them in mate coops when received. A mating coop is a small box, with a movable division in the center; in one side the male is placed, and in the other the female. Keep them here until they show signs of mating by affectionately cooing one to the other; then remove the division and permit them to remain together in the mating coop until they show signs of nesting, then remove them to a nesting box for a day or two, placing a wire screen in front of them. When this screen is removed, if properly mated, they will stick to the nest and go to work.

If all of these requirements were carefully considered in the mating of breeding pairs, there would be little trouble in the lofts, provided no unmated specimens were permitted to remain with the breeding pairs.



Seasonable Chicken Pointers

By JOSEPH SHAKESPEARE

THE majority of the chickens intended to grace the show coop, or to produce the profitable winter egg, are, or should be by this time, well on their legs, and at no time will they require more generous treatment in the way of food, range and shelter than now, if they are to develop into strong, active subjects. Much of the work necessary in the rearing yard now may be likened to that of the specialist who produces pot plants for the market, and who, during the present time, is giving the more forward subjects a shift into larger pots, and supplying them with richer plant food; weeding out the weaklings that the promising ones may have more room in which to healthily develop. Everybody who is anybody in horticultural circles knows how foolish it is to allow growing plants to become "pot bound," and how equally foolish it is to withhold from them the plant food so necessary during the time they are making rapid growth. Let us take a lesson from the plant grower. Our young stocks are "in the days of their youth," and there is a craving for food, more food; a desire for freedom, more freedom; a dislike on the part of nature for all that borders on congestion either in the yards or the shelters.

Where culling has not already been done no time should be lost in separating the promising

birds from the undesirables. One of the worst things that can possibly happen is to allow the growing stock to outpace the capacity of the rearing quarters, and such is likely to happen unless the weeding-out system is rigidly adopted, as most breeders hatch out more chickens than are intended to ultimately serve their requirements; and this is as it should be, since one can not foretell the sex of, or the bad luck that may attend, the youngsters. Some chickens may be weakly, others deformed or not up to the desired size. Then there are the cockerels, of which most poultry breeders produce more than are required for future stock or other purposes. The worst of these will be safest off the premises as quickly as possible, so that the food that they would otherwise consume may go to the better birds. It is not easy to weed out at an early age the faulty subjects of an exhibition flock of youngsters, as there are so many breeds that do not show up their virtues and failings prior to donning their cockerel or pullet plumage, according to their sex, but in the case of utility stock it should be an easy matter now to choose the good from the bad—that is, as far as their physical virtues or failings are concerned. Let the cockerels that are to be retained for future stock purposes run together on a spacious plot, when they will live happily together, and more especially if the opposite sex are kept from their view. I can not too strongly lay stress upon the importance of ample exercising ground for the cockerels from the time they are selected from the undesirables till they are relegated to the breeding pens, being aware of the fact that many chicken raisers, and especially novices, either through lack of space or knowledge, give the pullets all the room available and put the males into coops and other convenient places. This is false economy, as the cockerels, to ensure a satisfactory account of themselves as breeders, need that liberty and physical exercise which alone can account for full development, and physically strengthen their productive organs. Not only should the birds have the run of ample land, and grass land for preference, but also a roomy house to roost in, and in which they may be exercised among litter on all occasions when inclement weather prevents foraging outside.

In the case of pullets intended for egg production, it is advisable, where possible, to let them

have all the sun at command. The grass range is now providing an abundance of insect and vegetable life, so much so that precocious pullets will do without an addition of animal matter to their rations. When meat is fed to pullets on a good range during the spring and summer months they are liable to be brought into lay long before they are properly developed, and what should go toward making frame, flesh and feather is transformed into puny, unsalable eggs. In the event of a prolonged drought a little meat in the rations may be admissible owing to lack of insect life on the range; but, apart from that, no hand-fed food of an animal nature should be given. What should be aimed at first is bodily growth. Get bone, muscle, flesh, feather and all that makes up the perfectly developed bird, and then feed for eggs. The pullets that lay at an early age will prove the forerunners of degenerate progeny, and why so many breeders crow about pullets that produce eggs at from four to five months of age is beyond comprehension. The utility poultry keeper will do well to follow the example of the man who breeds birds up to standard requirements. In the show bird, size is required, and should the pullets show signs of laying before standard weight is reached, they are fed on less meat and other foods of a nitrogenous and albuminous nature, and are frequently shifted about to fresh land and



Silver Wyandotte Male



Silver Wyandotte Female

Remember that only by proper feeding, housing and exercise can utility or exhibition stock be steered through chickenhood safely and rendered capable of becoming profitable subjects of the laying pen or the show coop, according to their class. About insect pests, enough has already been written to fill a library, and as every word has been founded on truth, it only remains for the chicken raiser to decide whether it is better to feed fowls than lice. One can not do both.

[illegible]

NOTE.—This Chart will be published each Month in The Feather during the year. Keep a correct record of your birds each month.

TIMELY TOPICS

By PLUMMER McCULLOUGH.

This has been the most backward spring we have had for years—rain without end. People are not through plowing for oats and they should be planting corn. It is going to make crops very late and feed prices promise to be as high as ever in the future. It has been a bad spring for little chicks also and the early hatches have not been very successful with some breeders. The early eggs did not hatch as well as was expected, and after the chicks were out they were hard to get started. The cold, damp weather was hard on them and the result will be that the poultry crop will likely be short and the demand will exceed the supply this fall.

In the Poultry Review John H. Rustin gives a simple remedy for gapes in chicks and writes as follows: "As the hatching season is near at hand I would like to make a few suggestions. When I see a chick with gapes I take an indelible or copying pencil, dip it in water, then drawn it across the affected chicks. I then give it two or three drops of kerosene. By watching the marked birds you will readily see that they are cured. It is the simplest and cheapest remedy I know of."

If the above is a sure cure it surely is simple and cheap and a trial will prove its worth.

In the American Poultry Journal Dr. H. F. Ballard has an interesting article on judging. The doctor says: "A score card should show the exact value of a specimen on the day it is scored. Nothing else is attempted and nothing else should be expected. What I can not understand is why any person should expect a bird to score exactly the same, regardless of time or place or age or condition. No judge on earth can guarantee such a thing and we are foolish to expect it."

We don't expect it any more, doctor. There is no use. We don't expect a judge to score a bird the same at all times, places and under all conditions, but we do expect a judge to come somewhere near giving the same bird the same score the same day. This many of our judges do not or can not do. If a score should show the exact value of a bird on the day it is scored, then please tell us the true value of the following cockerel: He was scored by a prominent judge and scored 92 points. That same afternoon the judge scored this same bird by mistake, and he scored \$5. What is his value? Don't all speak at once.

C. W. Whitney says in American Poultry Advocate: "We would suggest that we pay the president of the A. P. A. a salary of \$1,000 per year and expenses, and not depend on the liberality of some publishing house to pay our bills." Surely some truth in this. Some of the editors seem to expect as much of the president as if he was paid twice this amount, and it is simply a "thanky" job. Don't expect great things of your presidents unless they are allowed something for their work. Few men can afford to give the office the time and work it requires and receive nothing but condemnation in return.

In Poultry Prof. H. H. Simpson gives some excellent rules on the feeding and caring for incubator chicks. He says in part: "Start the brooder a day or so

before the incubator hatches, so as to get the parts all thoroughly warmed up and regulated. Kill all crippled chicks and those that are so weak that you believe they will not live. The growing period is so short that it will not pay to attempt to raise them. The first feed should consist of the yolks of hard-boiled eggs or stale bread soaked and allowed to drain before feeding. Do not feed much at first, but feed about every three hours the first week. Clean the brooder thoroughly every week and spray with some disinfectant. Always see that the chicks are comfortable and contented. They are usually fairly quiet if they are."

"Link" Orr says in R. P. J. that a one-year term is not long enough for a president to serve the A. P. A. Well, perhaps not, but it depends greatly on who is president. Sometimes we think it plenty long.

It looks now very much as if the English Penciled Indian Runners were going to come back to public favor. Breeders of this variety say they can not supply the demand. It is undoubtedly true that the penciled variety is the original white egg strain of Runners. I hope that they will gain in popularity fast and I think that the poultry shows should provide separate classes for them. It is not fair to ask breeders of English Penciled Indian Runners to compete with the American Fawn and White birds. They are really two different varieties and should be so classed.

In American Poultry Journal Dr. P. T. Woods writes the following regarding chick foods which we can heartily endorse: "We wonder how long it is going to take chick food manufacturers and dealers to wake up to the dangers in stale chick food? Not only the danger to the chicks, but also the loss of business through selling unfit food. They ought to bestir themselves and do something to prevent the sale of stale, musty and moldy chick food, which kills its thousands of chicks annually. Some day, if something is not done to guarantee that the chick food supply will be delivered fresh, clean and wholesome, poultry men are going to put a taboo on the market and mix their chick foods from cracked grains at home. It will be the manufacturers' own fault if they lose trade from this cause."

This is too true and we wish to say that stale chick food is not fit to feed little chicks or poultry of any kind. If your dealer has a supply of chick food left over from last year do not buy it at any price. In fact, do not take it as a gift. We lose enough chicks annually in this great country of ours by careful feeding and care, without using stale chick food to act as a slow poison. I would much rather raise my chicks on cracked wheat and corn, if it is fresh and clean, than to risk them on a chick food that is not right. Get a good chick food or none at all.

Michael K. Boyer tells, in American Poultry Advocate, about a new variety called Black Diamonds. This new breed is being bred and was originated by Leigh H. Bache and was a cross from a White Wyandotte male or a Barred Rock Female. This was fol-

lowed by crosses of Black Minorcas, Black Orpingtons and Indian Games. The new breed slightly resembles the Indian Game in shape, says Mr. Boyer. The originator claims for them great utility qualities, which we hope is correct. Very often in making new breeds the utility qualities are lost sight of.

I am opposed to this everlasting making of new breeds anyway. It is too easy a matter for new breeds to be admitted to the standard. We have plenty of "new breeds" in the standard now, but many of them are bred by only a very few breeders. I am not throwing mud at the Black Diamonds or their originator. If they are a worthy breed they will soon prove their worth and will gain in popular favor. However, there are very few black varieties as extensively bred as other colors, though there is no apparent reason for this. Black is a good color and should not be a drawback to any breed. We shall look forward with interest to the Black Diamonds.

Many late chicks will be hatched this season. While I like early chicks if I can get them, it is not always possible to get just what you want. We did not have many early hatches this year and we shall have to make up for it with late hatches.

The truth of the matter is the best White Rocks I ever raised were hatched in June and July. In National Poultry Magazine, Judge C. F. Townsend says, "Don't be afraid of late hatches. If you get your chicks out any time before July 1 you will lose nothing this year. Indeed the finest Single Comb R. I. Red Cockerel I ever raised was hatched last July from a setting of Lester Tompkin's fifty-dollar eggs. He is already a big fellow and worth the cost of several fifty-dollar settings."

So you see, friends, that late hatches do pay and pay well. If you have failed to get out as many early chicks as you wanted to raise, just keep on setting until you get the desired number and they will pay you well, even if they are late this year.

You will have to put up a stiff fight against lice from now on. Don't let up at any time. Get a small sprayer, a gallon of good liquid lice killer and spray the roosts, dropping boards, walls and nests at least once a week; oftener if they need it. Keep the chicks free from lice also if you want them to do their very best. No chick can grow and do its very best when it has an army of lice sucking its life blood. Get rid of the lice or they will get rid of your chicks.

Many breeders are offering bargains in some of their breeding stock this month. They need the room and feed for their growing chicks. Do you know that if you want a start in pure-bred poultry that an investment of a few dollars in a good trio or small pen of fowls from some good breeder, will be money well spent? If you get them at once you may be able to hatch quite a few nice chicks from them yet this season. Try it and see.

Don't forget that both young stock and old stock need plenty of shade and good drinking water from now on. This is next to feed and should not be neglected.

Dr. N. W. Sanborn, in A. P. Advocate, says: "Gather hatching eggs several times a day. So many hens will use the same nest to lay in that the long continued heat may start the germ." Ever think of this, friends? Well, it's true. Market eggs also

should be gathered more than once a day and kept in a cool place till used for hatching or sold for market. Set eggs as soon as possible. Good hatches are obtained from eggs two and three weeks old, but it is much safer to set them fresh.

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After years of experiments we have discovered a sure cure—or money back.

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If you follow the rules of those who have made a success of the business. There is no reason why a hen should not lay in winter, if she is provided with the elements which make the egg. When these are provided she will produce the eggs.

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Contains these elements, when combined with the food, to make the laziest hen lay her share of eggs. It is a great Laying Tonic and conditioner of hens. Those who have tried it would not be without it—and now is your time to prove it. See the testimonials on back cover page of this number of The Feather. Send for our new free booklet, "Calendar of Poultry Keeping, 1912." Agents wanted. Regular size box, 1½ lbs., 25 cents; by mail, 45 cents. Five boxes, by express or freight, \$1.00. Sample size, ½ lb., 10 cents; by mail, 15 cents.

The Successful Poultry Remedy Company

WASHINGTON, D. C.

"Eggs for Hatching---Handle with Care"

By PLUMMER McCULLOUGH

This is the time of the year when there are many baskets being shipped with the above labels on them. This eggs-for-hatching trade has gotten to be quite a business indeed, and it would surprise us if we knew exactly the amount that will be spent this year for eggs for hatching. It is true that there are some objections to this way of getting started in the poultry business or by getting new blood by purchasing eggs, but there are objections in every other line. Some prefer to start by getting baby chicks, but I would prefer to buy eggs.

Two years ago the man whom I was working for purchased 100 baby chicks from a large poultry farm in the East. They arrived in good condition. Every one alive and as lively as crickets. They did fine for a few days, seemingly, but were soon stricken with white diarrhoea and in two weeks he had lost every chick. They seemed to have the best of care and I am sure it was not the fault of the buyer. Last year he thought he would try it again, so tried a Western farm. The chicks arrived all O. K., 100 of them, and they, like the first lot, did well for a few days and they started to die with white diarrhoea or something very similar, and more than half of them died inside of a week or two.

I think he managed to pull through with about thirty and they were the sickliest runts I have seen for some time in the chicken line. They simply would not grow, though they had a variety of food and plenty of it.

This cooked this man for buying chicks. Another neighbor who purchased some Black Orpington chicks did not fare much better. He lost the greater part of his chicks, but succeeded in raising three or four nice ones.

With these experiences to study over I have come to the conclusion it is, as a rule, safer to buy eggs and hatch your own chicks. Of course, everyone does not have such poor success. Many have good success in buying baby chicks. If I am not mistaken, Dr. Woods purchased most of his chicks last season and had boss luck with them.

Another thing that I object to in this chick business is that many of the so-called pure bred chicks that are flooding the market are of very poor quality and breeding. Often they are hatched from eggs procured from some neighboring farmers at a cent or two a dozen over market price. I know this sometimes to be pretty nearly the case.

If a man can furnish baby chicks from good stock of pure breeding, I have no objections whatever, but I don't like this thing of selling any old thing for a "pure bred" Barred Rock chick just because it is from speckled parents. Many of the large breeders will not sell baby chicks from their best matings. They figure that if they go to the bother of hatching them they will then raise them for themselves.

However, it is not my purpose to condemn the baby chick business, but as I said before, I will take my chances with eggs. The eggs for hatching business has, I believe, grown faster the past few years than any part of the poultry business. It is not more than eight or ten years ago that there were only a few of the large breeders that sold eggs as high as \$5 per setting. You could almost count them on

your fingers and thumbs. U. R. Fishel, E. B. Thompson, A. C. Hawkins, Bradley Bros., Grove Hill Poultry Yards, E. L. Miles, and a few others were the first to raise the price above \$5 per setting. Most of these breeders now charge at least \$10 per setting for their eggs and there are truly hundreds of breeders that now sell eggs for \$5 or more per setting.

There are few people that give the eggs intended for incubation the care that they should have. They should be gathered often and kept in a cool place. Whether it is necessary to turn them daily or not I am not able to say. Rev. C. E. Peterson says not. I have gotten good hatches both ways, but I am inclined to believe that they should be turned every day or two, as there is no doubt that the yolk will settle to one side more or less if they are not turned.

Another thing that is important is to set or ship eggs as fresh as you possibly can. It is true that you can "sometimes" get a good hatch from eggs two, three and even four weeks old, but that does not say that they should be kept that long. In fact the sooner they are set after laid the more chance you have of getting a good hatch. I would rather set them the very day they are laid if I could do so. They can, of course, be kept a week or more if it is absolutely necessary, but I prefer not to do so.

When shipping eggs for hatching it is necessary to have them carefully packed so as to reach the buyer in

good condition. They often get rough handling by the express company employees and it is necessary that they be so packed that they will stand this way of handling without breakage or any other bad effects. This is not as easy a job as one would think. There are many ways now of packing eggs. Some use the special boxes and baskets made of corrugated paper that are made especially for the purpose. They are no doubt all right, but I would prefer a basket of some kind with a handle instead of a box. I never shipped but one lot of eggs in a box and as they did not give good results, and the eggs were strictly fresh and hatching unusually well at home, I never tried the stunt again. Personally, I ship in common baskets, chip baskets, using the peck size for one setting and the half bushel for three settings or fifty lots. For a hundred I either use a bushel basket or two half bushel baskets.

To pack a basket of eggs I take the basket and put a heavy layer of crushed newspaper in the bottom two inches thick. Paper is also put around the sides and ends of basket, and each egg is wrapped well in a liberal piece of paper, so there are no thin places next to the shell. I then place the eggs in the basket as I wrap them, and when I have a layer of eggs in the bottom I then put more paper on top, then wrap more eggs and put on, and so on until I get in the desired number. I use plenty of paper and am careful to not have the eggs next to the sides, ends or bottom of basket at any time. Always have a heavy layer of crushed paper between eggs and basket, thus to save any jar that they may get. After I get through putting in eggs I take a newspaper and put over the whole top. Just leave the paper as it is and press it down around the sides. Then take a piece of strong muslin and sew over top of basket with strong cord. Sew

it well, so it can not come loose. I sew it all up but one end, then I take more newspaper and crush up in my hand and shove under the muslin, making a heavy layer of paper on top of basket between muslin and eggs. Put in lots of paper, all you can get in without tearing the muslin. I like to have enough to make top quite solid. Then there is no danger of breaking the top layer of eggs. When through putting in paper finish sewing up muslin and then paste on a printed egg label which reads like this: "Eggs for Hatching, Handle With Care." Put on at least one egg label, or two is better, one at each end. If you don't have any printed ones get some or write this

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Use these Life-Saving-Devices, if you raise a few or many chicks.

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Forty-five full-page plates in color and black-and-white embellish the pages of this splendid work; all by J. W. Ludlow; and there are innumerable pictures scattered throughout the text. The work is finely printed in a large, clear, readable type and bound in stout, extra durable cloth binding with lettering in gold, gilt edges. Size of volume 9 1/2 x 11 x 2. Weight, seven pounds. Without question the finest poultry book ever published.

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Gentlemen—I send you herewith 50c (stamps accepted) for which kindly send me, carriage prepaid, one copy of Lewis Wright's "New Book of Poultry." It is understood I may examine this work five days, and if I do not wish to keep it I agree to notify you and hold subject to your order, and you are to refund my money. If I decide to keep it I agree to pay the balance of \$8 in monthly installments of \$1 each until settled in full.

Name.....

Occupation.....

Address.....

plainly and paste on. Put them on at any rate. Then put on your shipping tags and your eggs are ready to ship. I usually put on two shipping tags so if one should get torn off the eggs will not be lost, as they would if only one were used.

Do the best you can to please your customer and even if he should get a poor hatch, do your part to make it right and meet him more than half way. A few of my own experiences might not be out of place.

I remember of one man in New York State who sent me an order for one setting of eggs. He complained that he had always been beat before and hoped I would use him right, but really he seemed a little doubtful about it. However, he sent me his order and I packed and shipped eggs in good shape. Upon arrival he said there was a big hole jammed in the egg basket and several were broken. The result was he got a poor hatch, though my own eggs, which were no different from the ones sent him, were hatching well at home. Now this was no fault of mine whatever. I guaranteed a hatch of eggs, eight chicks from 15 eggs, or would duplicate your order at half price. This, of course, was the fault of the express company and he should have made them pay damages, but he did not seem to think so and was not going to order another setting at half price. Now, in a case of this kind what would you do?

Well, here is what I did. I packed another setting of eggs and sent them free, and told him to pay nothing for them but express charges. He got a good hatch and was highly pleased.

Another instance where a man bought 100 eggs and got a poor hatch and seemed to think he had lost considerable. I made him a present of fifty extra eggs and I am glad to say that this man is today a warm friend of mine, and he would, I believe, trust me with anything.

In another case a man in New York purchased from me 100 eggs. I put in 15 extras, making 115. He was an amateur and put them in an incubator, with the result that he got 27 chicks. He was wrathful and seemed to think me nothing more than a highway robber. He demanded that I return his money at once, which I refused to do, as the eggs were worth money to me and they were hatching well at home. I did offer him more eggs free, something that I really should not have done, but he refused them. Of course he never for a minute put the blame on the incubator or himself. It was all on me and I was as innocent as a lamb.

This goes to show that the sellers are not always to blame. If he succeeded in raising most of his 27 chicks he would have made a good investment, but he wanted the earth or none. I tried to do what was right by him, but he was unreasonable. It does not pay to blame the seller for every little thing that goes wrong. Seldom it is his fault. Most all breeders want to do what is right and I for one am always willing to do what is right with my customers. I will meet them half way or more, but they must use common sense and not be unreasonable. I firmly believe it pays to please a customer even if you lose money by it. He will always remember you and bring you future orders. Do what is right, both buyer and seller, and make your dealings pleasant. A few extra eggs shipped in the basket will not rob the seller and will make the buyer's heart glad.

Deal with each other in peaceful and friendly ways. Life is too short for this everlasting fighting. The only way to settle any matter is by getting together in a pleasant way and both be willing to meet half way or more.

We have shipped eggs for hatching

to many States with fine results. One batch I remember of, the customer hatching 48 chicks from 52 eggs. He sure got his money's worth and he thought so, too. He is my customer to this day.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

American Poultry Association
Convention, Nashville, Tenn.,
August 9-15, 1912.

Headquarters, Hermitage Hotel. Meetings of the American Poultry Association will be held in Hall of the Legislature, State Capitol (meetings open to the public).

Friday, August 9, 10 a. m.—Meeting of the Executive Board in the assembly room, Hermitage Hotel, open to members of the American Poultry Association.

Saturday, August 10, 10 a. m.—Meeting of the Executive Board in the assembly room, Hermitage Hotel.

Monday, August 12, 9 a. m.—Thirty-seventh annual meeting of the American Poultry Association called to order by the president. Address of welcome by Hon. B. W. Hooper, Governor of the State of Tennessee. Response by Mr. Reese V. Hicks, of Topeka, Kans., President of the American Poultry Association; roll call of members by States; approval of minutes of last meeting; report of Election Commissioner; election of Board of Review; appointment of Committee on Credentials.

2 p. m.—Report of Executive Board on application for membership; charters granted to branch associations; annual report and recommendations (all reports as soon as made will be open for discussion and motions to carry their recommendations into effect); annual report of the Secretary; annual report of the Treasurer; reports of Finance Committee; report of Board of Review under suspension of rules; report of Committee on Credentials; ladies' tea and musicale at Hermitage Hotel, 4 o'clock.

8 p. m.—Grand reception, followed by grand ball, Hermitage Hotel. (The hotel will be beautifully decorated for the occasion.)

Tuesday, August 13, 9 a. m.—Report from and regarding branch associations (all reports must be in writing and signed by the President and Secretary of the branch association); report of the Committee on Bureau of Lectures, G. C. Watkins, chairman; report of Committee on Education and Experimentation, Prof. Jas. E. Rice, chairman.

2 p. m.—Report of Committee on Plymouth Rock Breed Standard, A. C. Smith, chairman; report of Committee on Market Egg and Poultry Standard, Robert H. Essex, chairman; report of Committee on Show Blanks, W. Theo. Wittman, chairman. Lawn fete and musicale at the country home of Mr. Percy Warner at 4 o'clock.

8 p. m.—"Progressive Poultry Culture," illustrated lecture, A. A. Brigham, director of the South Dakota Agricultural College, Brookings, S. D.

Wednesday, August 14, 9 a. m.—Report of the Secretary on contest for separate breed standard; report of Committee on Editing and Publishing Second Edition 1910 Standard, F. L. Kimmey, chairman; report of the Standing Revision Committee on the 1915 Standard, Reese V. Hicks, ex officio, chairman.

2 p. m.—Consideration of proposed amendments to the constitution and by-laws; "Market Poultry and Egg Conditions in the South," address by Prof. H. C. Pierce, Food Research Laboratory, Bureau of Chemistry, United



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One time	\$1.00
Three times	2.00
Six times	4.00
One year	7.00

Copy may be changed as often as desired, though we advise running a standard ad when possible, in order that buyers may become acquainted with it. Length of ad is not limited, but additional words will be charged for at the rate of 4 cents each for one insertion, or 2½ cents each for each insertion when run three times or more. Figures count as single words.

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BARRED ROCK EGGS FOR HATCHING. Cockerel line exclusively. All infertile eggs replaced. Eggs from pens headed by 4th Cockerel at Williamsport, 1911; 1st and 2d Cockerel at Germantown, 1912. \$2 and \$3 per 15. W. S. Stokes, Edgemont, Pa.

WYANDOTTES

"REGAL" WHITE WYANDOTTES "DUSTON." Direct from Martin. Stay white. Chicks: 20 cents; 100, \$15. Eggs: 15, \$1.50; 50, \$4; 100, \$6. Elwood Taylor, Berwyn, Md.

WYANDOTTES—BOYD'S WASHINGTON Strain of Black Wyandottes are still winning. Stock and eggs for sale. Write for circular and prices. Geo. H. Boyd, 1255 Morse St. N. E., Washington, D. C.

WYANDOTTES—STOCK AND EGGS TO sell from winners of White Wyandottes at Washington, Warrenton, Richmond, etc. Circular giving winnings and prices sent on request. W. W. Thomas, Catlett, Va.

1,000 PURE DUSTON WHITE WYANDOTTES, raised on 50-acre farm, 20 yards, mated for eggs. Get prices on your wants. Allen Sechrist, Port Trevorton, Pa.

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BREEDING S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS. Exclusive eggs for sale, \$2 per 15, or \$5 per 100. Satisfaction guaranteed. John M. Yerger, Gilbertsville, Pa.

ROSE COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—WINNERS at Madison Square, Buffalo and Rochester. Mating list and circular. Eight grand pens. Box F, Howard J. Fisk, Falconer, N. Y.

S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS OF SUPERIOR quality. An amalgamation of America's best blood lines. Mated right and bred right. Why experiment? Our stock is beyond that stage. Profit by our loss. Eggs from selected mating that will start you on the road to success, only \$1.50 per setting; 3 settings, \$4. Holiday Heights Poultry Farm, Sellersville, Pa.

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States Department of Agriculture Station, Nashville, Tenn.

9 p. m.—Grand banquet, Hermitage Hotel.

Thursday, August 15, 9 a. m.—Inauguration of new officers; new business; report of Executive Board; judges' license granted; new members elected; standing committees announced; report of Express Committee, Chas. D. Cleveland, chairman; report of Committee on Parcel Post Promotion, C. M. Zimmer, chairman; report of Committee on Organization, Wm. Barry Owen, chairman; report of Committee on Medals, T. E. Quisenberry, chairman.

2 p. m.—Report of Committee on Show Information, R. F. Palmer, chairman; election of Election Commissioner; announcement of election of Treasurer; "Poultry Shippers' Organization and Their Place in the Industry," address by Hon. O. P. Barry, President of the Southern Poultry and Egg Shippers' Association, Alexandria, Tenn.

8 p. m.—"Darkies' Life in the South Today and Fifty Years Ago" (in two parts), at Ryman Auditorium.

Friday, August 16, 9 a. m.—Poultry demonstration at the Naive-Spillers Produce Company's packing house; trip to the Hermitage, the home of former President Andrew Jackson, where an old-fashioned barbecue will be served. Trains will leave for the Hermitage at 12 o'clock noon.

Friday evening, August 16—On to Chattanooga.

Saturday, August 17—Visit to Chickamauga Park, Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain. Return trip, stop-over at Mammoth Cave, Ky.

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Vol. XVI. No. 7
JULY, 1912

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WYANDOTTES. This valuable volume was written by T. F. McGrew. It contains ten colored plates of the several varieties of Wyandottes, and other illustrations in black and white. It is for the benefit of breeders of Wyandottes that this book is issued, and it should prove of considerable value to all interested in these fowls.

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PLYMOUTH ROCKS, by T. F. McGrew, contains six colored plates of the three varieties of Plymouth Rocks, and other illustrations in black and white. The book has been carefully prepared, and as it is issued for the benefit of breeders of this variety of fowls, it should prove of considerable value to all interested in them.

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PURE-BRED POULTRY ON THE FARM

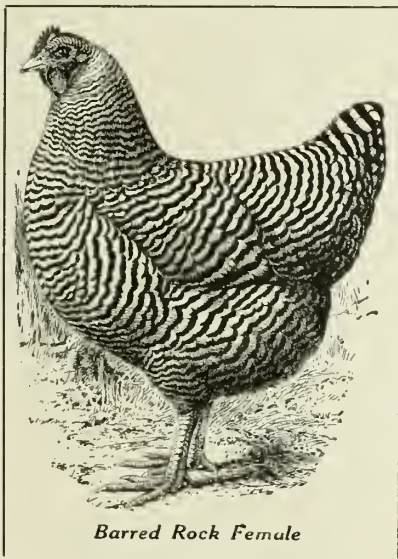
By PLUMMER McCULLOUGH

We have always taken a great interest in pure bred poultry and the more I study the matter the more I can see that the average farmer is not living up to his opportunity in the poultry business. No one is better situated to make poultry pay than the farmer. He can raise all his grain feed and all green foods that his fowls need. We are acquainted with a number of farmers who are making money out of pure bred poultry. We are also acquainted with a large number who we don't believe make their poultry pay expenses. This is not always the fault of the poultry, of course, but usually is the fault of the farmer himself. Many farmers pay little or no attention to the matter of the proper kind of houses, feed or care.

When such conditions exist it is the fault of the farmer himself and not of his fowls. However, it is only too true that too many farmers of this country keep mongrel poultry when they might be keeping pure bred poultry just as well; in fact, better. They would certainly get more pleasure out of pure bred birds than a flock of mixed ones and as to profits I will take the pure bred fowls every time. Take the men, such as Fishel, Kellerstrass, Hawkins, Thompson, Young and hundreds of others, who have made such wonderful success out of some chosen breed or variety of poultry. Everyone of them have made their remarkable records with pure bred stock and not with mongrels. Many farmers say they would like to get started in pure poultry, but complain that the cost to start is too great. This is not necessarily true. It is true that good stock will cost more than mongrels, but it will not be necessary to make any great outlay for a start in pure bred poultry. Whether it will pay best to start with stock or eggs will depend largely on how much money you have to start with. One can usually start much cheaper with eggs, but it takes a year longer before you get rightly started. To the man who has from \$10 to \$25 to make his start I would advise him to buy stock for his start. For \$10 he can buy a fairly good trio of reliable breeders consisting of 2 females and 1 male, or for \$25 he can buy a pen of four or six pretty good females and a male. Such a pen would produce all the eggs needed for incubation by the ordinary farmer for the season and if kept penned separate throughout the breeding season he could raise all pure bred chicks the first year. He would

be compelled to use his mongrel hens for hatching the eggs, as he would want his pure bred hens to lay. The first year you will have some surplus cockerels for sale, and these will find ready sale for breeding purposes if you will advertise them in some good farm or local paper. In buying stock for your foundation there are a number of things that you must look after in the most careful manner. First, be sure the stock that you are thinking of buying is of correct breeding. "Thoroughbred" covers a multitude of sins with some breeders, but you want more than simply to have the breeder tell you they are "thoroughbred." You want to know that their parents, grandparents, great grandparents are all bred from the best stock obtainable for generations back.

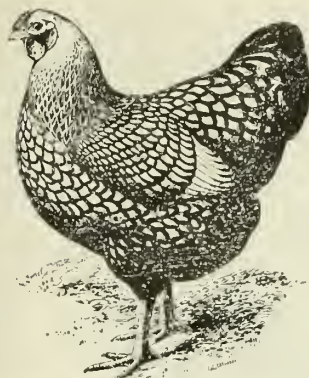
Second, make certain that you get stock of strong constitutional vigor. Don't let anything stand in the way of this. It is especially important. If



Barred Rock Female

you want birds for eggs they must be strong and healthy. If you want market birds they must be vigorous, rugged, husky birds, ready to resist disease. If you want to raise birds for breeding purposes you must have nothing but the healthiest and most vigorous stock to start with. Here again you should make sure that the ancestors of your foundation stock were strong in constitutional vigor.

These two points certain, you should then be particular that you get birds of good individual quality. You can buy stock of some of the "forty-variety men" for a small amount of money, but my advice is to buy of a specialist and don't buy birds simply because they are cheap. Get good birds. Not necessarily show stock, but birds that will conform to standard requirements quite well. I would rather buy a trio of extra good birds than to buy a dozen cheap good-for-nothing culls at one-fourth the cost. Cheap stock is not always cheap in the end. If you start with eggs you will not get a flock of pure breeds quite as quickly as you would by buying a pen, but for anyone with limited means, it is a splendid way to make a start. When buying eggs for hatching it is necessary to take the same careful pains to see that you are getting eggs from stock of good vigor, correct breeding and of good individual

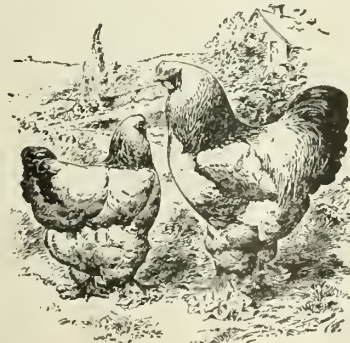


Silver Wyandotte Female

quality. I would buy three settings of eggs for a start if I could do so. It will give you a larger flock to select your breeding pen from the following spring. If you do not have the means to buy more than one setting of eggs for your start, well and good. You can get a start by buying one setting of good eggs if you do your very best. In making my start with one setting of eggs I would not trust them to any one hen, but would divide them up among about three good biddies. By doing this you stand a good chance to hatch every fertile egg and if a hen should leave the nest you will not lose the whole setting of eggs, as you would if they were under only one hen.

Now, I am not going to tell you which variety you should choose, but I am going to tell you to select a variety that is suited to your purpose. If you want to produce white eggs and lots of them, I would heartily recommend the varieties of Leghorns, Hamburgs and Minorcas. If you want brown eggs and a good market fowl, there is nothing better than the Plymouth Rock, Wyandottes or Rhode Island Reds. Take your chosen variety and then do your very best with that variety that you possibly can. As I said in the beginning of this article, there is no man better situated to make money out of poultry than the farmer. The orchard is an ideal place for breeding stock. Young growing stock can be taken out to the grain fields after they have been harvested and any waste grain that is lying on the ground will be quickly gathered up by the stock. We find a corn field an ideal place for young stock during August and September. Poultry needs plenty of range, plenty of pure drinking water, plenty of shade and plenty of feed of the right sort. These all the farmer has and more, too.

His young stock on free range can pick up much food, such as insects, bits of clover, grass seeds, etc—these all at no cost to the farmer, and they are to be reckoned with at the present prices of feeds. If you are not breeding pure bred poultry, Mr. Farmer, start this very year of 1912. You are



Light Brahma

losing pleasure and money by not breeding them. I think farmers also make a mistake in selling their eggs and poultry to the middlemen. Sell direct to the consumer if possible, and put the middlemen's money in your own pocket. Just another word. It is, as most of you know, a rule for farmers to keep about six or seven males to every 50 or 60 hens they keep. Do you know this is all foolish? Well, it is if you are selling your eggs for market. It is unwise to have a lot of males with your laying hens unless eggs are wanted for hatching. Infertile eggs keep much longer and in much better condition than do fertile eggs. You will want some eggs for your own hatching, to be sure, but you can yard up ten or twelve of your best hens with a choice male and they will produce all the eggs you will want for hatching. If you wish, you can keep an extra male bird in case the one should be killed or injured in any way. This beats keeping a raft of cockerels the whole year as boarders when all you need is your own hatching eggs. Try this method and you will find it O. K.

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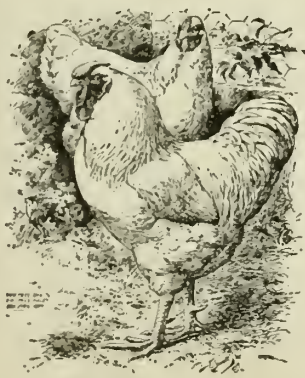
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White Wyandottes



SICILIAN BUTTERCUPS

About a dozen years have already passed since this candidate for public favor was first brought into this country under quite interesting circumstances, which shows that some great events are never planned by anyone, but merely happen.

Captain Dawes, owner of the bark Fruiter, who visited all parts of the globe, seeking profitable trade in many foreign ports, when about to start for America from the Island of Sicily, in Southern Italy, with a cargo of raisins, oranges and figs, purchased in the market a coop of fowls and took them on board his vessel, thinking to use them as food on his journey home.

Thus they were unwittingly placed on trial for their lives, and they won their life and liberty by laying so persistently and continuously that they soon demonstrated the fact that their product was worth far more as food to their keeper than their bodies, and they were brought home, and ever since have been winning their way through unobtrusive merit and worth.

Up to the present time Buttercups have never happened to come into the possession of any fancier or breeder with means or disposition to boom them through expensive or widespread advertising, but whatever popularity they have obtained has been gained through intrinsic merit, which consists of beauty of a very rare and distinct type, gentleness of disposition, easy keep and a maximum productiveness in eggs.

Buttercups are absolutely non-sitters, their whole thought and force seeming to be just eggs, eggs, spring, summer, autumn and winter, nothing but eggs, first, last, and all the time, in fact they are one of the few breeds which have made an annual record of 300 large white eggs.

The most distinctive characteristic of the Buttercup is shape of comb, which differs in type from all others, being neither single, rose, nor pea, but starting at the base of the bill in a single form, it soon branches and runs around the crown of the head in a uniform circle of bright red spikes, each of which may be likened unto the petals of a flower. And it was on account of this most unique and most beautiful appendage that the name Buttercup was given.

Up to the present time there are comparatively few Buttercup breeders in this country, and so far as I have been

able to trace them there is absolutely no stock for sale at any price, all who possess them preferring to keep and propagate them rather than sell at any figure, knowing full well that the demand for years to come will be so great and far-reaching that prices must continually advance rather than decline.

In color the Buttercups perhaps more closely resemble the Golden Spangled Hamburgs than any other known fowl, the cocks being mainly a bright golden red with black points, while the females are of a light yellow or buff body color quite thickly spangled with black lacing.

The Buttercups, unlike many so-called new breeds, are not of a made-up or mongrel origin, but have no doubt been line bred for a long period of time in their native land, and so breed comparatively true to type, their greatest variation seeming to be in color of legs, some being of a yellowish cast, and others of a willow green. Their bodies are very plump and heavy and come to maturity very early, June-hatched chicks in our yards beginning to lay in December and continuing unabated through our unusually cold January and February blizzards, when for weeks at a time the mercury seldom got as high as zero, and on several occasions touched 30 below.

Buttercups are most active foragers, well adapted for farm life, and yet are easily fenced and seemingly as well fitted for close confinement, having none of the wildness which pertains to the Leghorn class; but on the contrary are among the tamest and gentlest of fowls and become such pets as to soon endear themselves into the hearts of their owners. In fact I have never in my life before taken care of a pen of fowls of any kind with such a feeling of pleasure and satisfaction as is given me by this, my latest acquisition.

Possibly the fact that someone is waiting for every egg long before it is laid, at a price equal to the value of a dozen or more of ordinary stock, may somewhat intensify my interest in them, yet I am sure that if I were shipping the product to market I should have no desire to make a change.

And this is why I believe that Buttercups will continue to be popular long after the fanciers may have turned their attention to something newer. Practical worth and utility value must rule in the end.

I have been interested in Buttercups for a number of years, my foundation stock coming from a friend who secured them almost direct from the original Captain Dawes stock nearly a dozen years ago, so I had the opportunity to watch their behavior, and I know their merits when judged only from a utility point of view, and being fully satisfied that they were destined to see great popularity I have since secured stock from more recent importations, and shall this season myself import new blood direct from the finest to be found in Sicily—L. F. Tillinghast.

Roosting Closet for Poultry

In the curtain-front type of poultry house used at the Maine Experiment Station a feature of the original plan on which considerable stress was laid was the canvas curtain in front of the roosts. This curtain, together with the back wall of the house and the dropping board under the roosts, formed a closet in which the birds were shut up at night during cold weather. When the curtain-front house was first devised it was thought essential to provide such a closet to conserve the body heat of the birds during the cold nights when the temperature might be well below zero. Experience has shown, however, that this was a mistake. Actual test shows that the roosting closet is of no advantage, even in such a severe climate as that of Orono. On the contrary, the birds certainly thrive better without the roost curtain than with it. It has been a general observation among users of the curtain-front type of house that when the roost curtains are used the birds are particularly susceptible to colds. It is not hard to understand why this should be so. The air in the roosting closet when it is opened in the morning is plainly bad. The fact that it is warm in no way offsets physiologically the evils of its lack of oxygen and excess of carbon dioxide, ammoniacal vapors, and other exhalations from the bodies of the birds.

For some time past it has been felt that the roosting closet was at least unnecessary, if not in fact a positive

evil. Consequently the time of beginning to close the roost curtain in the fall has been each year longer delayed. Finally, in the fall of 1910, it was decided not to use these curtains at all during the winter. Consequently they were taken out of the house, or spiked to the roof, as the case might be. The winter of 1910-11 was a severe one. On several occasions the temperature dropped to 30 degrees below zero. During this winter the mortality was exceptionally low and the egg production exceptionally high.

In view of this experience the station has decided to discontinue the use of the roost curtain. It would seem to be generally undesirable or at least unnecessary.

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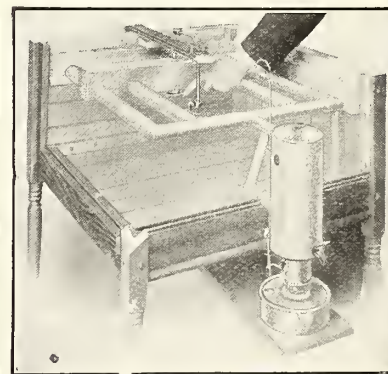
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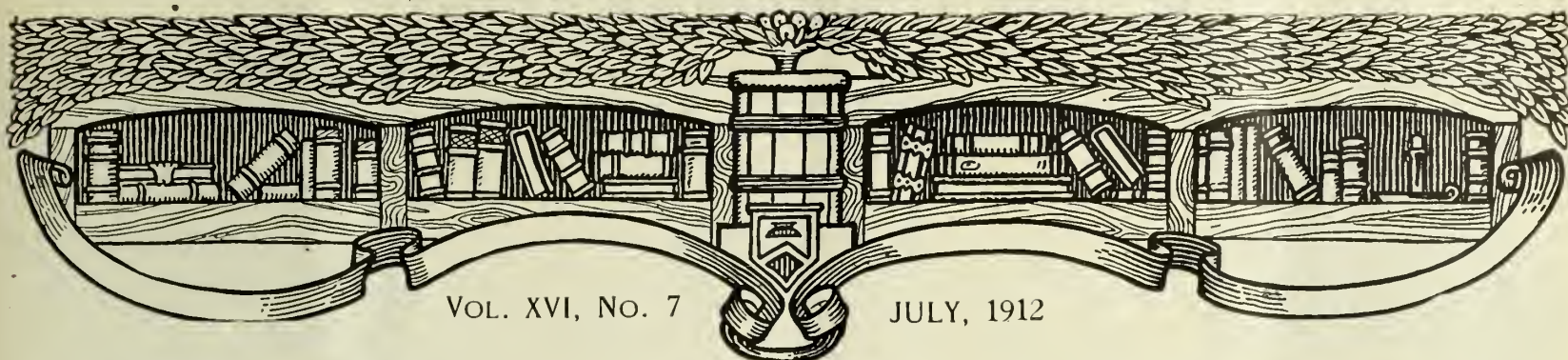
During the season of 1911-12 my White Rocks won a total of Twelve Firsts, Seven Seconds, One Third, Silver Cup for Best Pen, Special for Best Display in American Class. These winnings together with my former winnings prove that my White Rocks are the winning kind. Have the best matings this year I ever owned.

Eggs, \$2.00 per 15, straight. No further reduction.
From Special Pen, \$5.00 per 15. Mating list free.

PLUMMER McCULLOUGH

Box F

Mercer, Pa.



Editorial Comment

The question as to whether Leghorns will sit or not is brought to the front occasionally. One of our acquaintances who possessed a flock of about 250 or 300 White Leghorns, had sixty broody hens out of the flock a year ago the past summer, twenty-five of which were given eggs. Nearly all of these brought the nest of eggs to a successful incubation and eared for and reared their young chicks as well as did his White Plymouth Rocks. These hens had a large room in which their nests were placed and they were allowed to come and go from their nests at will. There was very little trouble with them except that when a stranger would go into the room some of them would become very uneasy. This party can never remember having so large a per cent of his Leghorns go broody, but it is the experience of all those who keep Leghorns that more or less of them will show a broody disposition every season. In many instances, however, they will not continue upon the nest long enough to hatch the clutch of eggs.

* * *

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Results surely come to the advertiser who really advertises.

* * *

We are unable to understand why it is that so many people cling to small towns and cities as living places. We have known people of small means to pay double as much rent for a small place 25x80 feet as they would to rent an acre and a half, with more convenience, a little ways out where they might grow everything their family needed without keeping the men folks from attending their daily labors, wherever they might be. The having of a garden spot, the having of plenty of fresh air for the family and children, the having of poultry and fresh eggs, all tend to cultivate more intelligence and more ability, both of which come from proper living. The most degraded of all people in our large cities are those who are grouped together like bugs in large tenement houses. As people branch out to these rural homes, with better facilities, accommodations and surroundings, they naturally improve. The cultivation of the ground and the care of animals bring about better dispositions, better health and a brighter and more intellectual mind. We shall hope to see the day when there will be more who will seek rural homes and small possessions as in France. So soon as we find the people going into the country to live, so as to have homes of their own with enough land about them to provide their daily wants, just that soon will the condition of the people advance.

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The question of water for young chicks has been carefully considered by many of the poultry growers throughout the country. The question of growing Bantams without water has been considered by the English Bantam fanciers. Many of the young Bantams grown in England are never allowed a drop of water from the time they are hatched until they are able to wander away and find it for themselves. The Bantam hens that are used to mother the young Bantams are provided with water in small, tin vessels which are fastened on the inside of the coop above and out of reach of the young Bantam chicks.

We can not solve the scientific principle involved nor can we decide whether the entire privation of drinking water is cruel or harmful to the young chicks. We do know from our own experience that some of the finest and most thrifty young Bantams that we have ever seen have been grown under the no-water system until able to find the same for themselves. Those we refer to were hatched in June, the mother-hen provided with water as above stated and the young Bantams fed upon small chick food, bread crumbs and oatmeal. No water whatever, nor are they fed any wet or mixed food. This is simply a record of what has been accomplished and what may be done and prove of benefit in the growing of young Bantams.

* * *

How would you like to have all of your dreams come true?

Following and in line with this is the furnishing of water to young ducks, also the feeding of same. In visiting some of the largest duck plants we noticed that the young ducks are fed in boxes with very flat bottoms and the food put inside of same. Upon these boxes are spread out the mixed, soft food for the young ducklings. Right near and on either side of same are water fountains filled with water for the young ducks. As often as these young ducklings are fed the water fountains are filled.

* * *

Some people are traveling around under false pretenses.

* * *

The ducklings would take a mouthful or two of the food and then run to the fountains for a swallow of water. The youngsters kept up a continual tramp to and from the food and water fountains. Here is a sample of a continual drinking after almost every mouthful of food. This we are told by the duck growers was the surest and best method of growing the young ducks. This in comparison with the no-water system as described above for the Bantam chicks is so in opposition one with the other that we can not help recording them here for the careful consideration of those who may understand these matters.

* * *

Riches are not to be taken as a standard of excellence among gentlemen.

* * *

Missouri State in general, and the Missouri State Poultry Experiment Station in particular, are doing splendid work for the poultry interests. It is a plain fact that the promoters behind these interests are live, energetic and practical men. Their work is based on a knowledge that can but prove of much value to the industry, and it is to be hoped that they will continue along the progressive lines they have adopted. Missouri has set a grand example for other States to follow in the poultry business.

* * *

The dull summertime, the dog-day season of the year, is now with us. It is the one time of the year when it is hard to muster energy enough to do all the things that should be done for the fowls and chicks. Yet, it is the time when one little slip, a slight neglect, or an evasion of work, will wreck the prospects for a whole season. The thousand and one things to be done in the poultry yard in the summer are as essentially necessary as any other part or parts of the business. Don't loaf on the job now, and blame some one else next fall for your failures. Keep at it, and never tire until you know the battle is won. Carefully watch the youngsters, and don't neglect the old fowls.



A TALK ABOUT EGGS

Some Facts that are Not Generally Known

By MICHAEL K. BOYER



THERE is no more reason why it should not be a crime to sell bad eggs than it is to sell bad butter. If a severe penalty is fixed, there will be less danger of farmers hunting up "hidden nests" and putting the product in the fresh egg basket, neither will it be likely that editors will be deluged with inquiries for "reliable recipes" for preserving eggs so that they can be purchased at low tide in summer and sold at high tide in winter.

Every farmer and poultryman should use the best of care in marketing table eggs, and there will be no trouble if some system is adopted. They can be dated as gathered from the nests, and if marketed every three days, will be entitled to be in the strictly fresh class. But any farmer, poultry man or dealer who will knowingly market eggs of a doubtful character, will sell eggs the age of which he knows nothing about, will offer preserved or even cold storage eggs without labeling them as such, should be severely punished by law.

Another way to fight the bad egg cause is to have the hens unmated when eggs are intended for culinary purposes only. At one time the idea existed that the attentions of the male bird was necessary to secure egg production. But that theory has long since been exploded by the fact that a number of the largest egg farms in the country do not have any males in the pens. The sole mission of the male is to fertilize the eggs, and it is this germ that causes the egg to rot. An infertile egg will never rot.

POISONOUS QUALITIES OF EGGS.

It has only been in recent years that we have discovered "poisonous" qualities in eggs. It has ever been asserted that eggs are the most healthful of foods. Jokingly an exchange says: "Stop eating eggs. If you don't stop your days are numbered. It has been found that people who eat eggs eventually have to wear spectacles, their eyesight is getting poor. Then their teeth give out, and one by one they have them pulled. Generally their hair gets gray, then after a while they die, just as you will if you eat another egg. If this kind of preaching don't stop the price of cackleberries, they will go so high we will have to try something else."

But it remained for a French physician—a Dr. Jaques Deschamps—to tell the world (in *La Medicine Francaise*) just how eggs affect some people. He says the recent experiments of M. Loisel have drawn attention to the poisonous action of ducks', hens', and tortoises' eggs introduced into the organism of a rabbit by sub-cutaneous injection. This poisonous effect may be very clearly noticed in human beings, not only after the consumption of a more or less tainted egg, in which case poison-

ing is attributed to putrefaction, but after the consumption of perfectly fresh hens' eggs. This does not seem to have had much attention from the different writers on regimen. Poisoning by eggs manifests itself by symptoms analogous to those from botulism, but it is limited to the gastrointestinal apparatus. Few people are affected by it.

Dr. Deschamps further says that, as a rule, eggs can be taken in fairly large numbers. Some tuberculous subjects who are undergoing the overfeeding method consume large quantities daily without any poisonous phenomena being apparent. On the other hand, there are dyspeptic subjects who can not consume the smallest quantity without feeling discomfort. There is, therefore, this peculiarity about the poisonousness of eggs, viz., that it is only manifest in cases where the subject is already predisposed; but with these people it is always apparent, even when consumed in the smallest quantities. The appearance of poisonous symptoms depends much less on the more or less variable poisonousness of the egg consumed than on the greater or lesser tendency to become affected by the poison.

As those people who have a tendency to become poisoned by eggs are, as a rule, nervous dyspeptics, it might be thought that suggestion played an important part in the appearance of poisonous phenomena. But the French Academy has proved that, if suggestion is capable of exaggerating the symptoms of poison, these are very distinctly apparent without it. They have been noticed several times after the consumption of small quantities of eggs well dissimilated in a mixed culinary preparation, so that the subject might not be aware of the experiment being made upon him.

Dr. Deschamps therefore thinks that the question is one of a peculiar poisonous action, the manifestation of which is subordinate to a peculiar and rather exceptional predisposition on the part of the subject. Ovotoxine would be a type of what the Academy has called relative poisons. It is comparable to the matters which, in strawberries, sea-fish and crabs, cause nettlerash. We know that as regards these substances there exist some individual tendencies which are very curious. One person may not be able to touch strawberries, while he may be able to eat crabs with impunity, while it might affect another in just the opposite way. The comparison of eggs with these rash-producing products is all the more right, as, according to Brocq, the white of egg is capable of producing a rash.

EGGS FROM A HYGIENIC STANDPOINT.

A writer in the *Delineator* years ago said the egg belongs to the limited list of "complete foods," as it contributed to the human body such valuable

properties as albumen, nitrogenous matter, fats, salts of iron, magnesium, potassium, etc. This would go to prove that an egg is not only easily digested and assimilated, but extremely nutritive. Physicians claim that an egg in the raw state is more easily digested, and is also slightly laxative. For this reason they prescribe a diet of raw eggs in cases of extreme debility, declining health, anaemia, etc. It is important, however, that the eggs given invalids and young children be strictly fresh.

There are some rare instances in which eggs appear to disagree with individuals, producing severe pain or discomfort, but Margaret Hall says this peculiarity may be generally traced to some temporary local derangement or impaired function, a bilious condition perhaps, gastric disturbance, liver torpidity, etc. When such conditions become eradicated or improved, it will be found that the egg will assimilate and digest to perfect satisfaction.

Evidence in this line can be given in the case of the writer. When he resided in Virginia he contracted malarial fever and was compelled to move to a non-malarial section. He chose the pines of South Jersey. The malaria gradually left him, to be followed with dyspeptic disorders, and to eat eggs in any form was absolute poison to his system. In a year or two, by the aid of the pure air, pure water, and a careful diet he got rid of the dyspepsia, and today can eat eggs in any form, and they not only agree with him, but are very nutritious.

Miss Hall says that in fever cases the white of egg alone, whipped to a froth, with a little water added, constitutes a desirable form of nutriment. This is also prescribed in serious cases of colic and indigestion with infants, to be taken from the nursing bottles when even milk must be temporarily abandoned. Also in winning back vitality in instances of extreme exhaustion upon the ravages of "summer complaint," where the stomach, with very young children, refuses almost any nourishment, the well-whipped white of egg, finely chopped ice, a little sugar, and a few drops of brandy, will be found a wonderful nutritive factor.

Raw egg with sherry wine, or with cream, milk, bouillon, broths, etc., is recommended in cases of extreme debility and malnutrition, as a strength giving form of nourishment. A soft-boiled or lightly poached egg is more easily digested than one that is fried or hard boiled.

Physiological chemists say that 97 per cent of the albumen and 94 per cent of the fat of the egg are absorbed into the blood stream. Eggs are a complete food, as they contain in proper proportion the tissue-building material in form of albumen (white), and mineral matter in the form of phosphorus, lime, potassium, iron and sulphur; the heat and energy material in the form of oil (fat)



An Exhibition Barred Plymouth Rock Female

in the yolk, and a large amount of pure water. But the egg can not be called a complete food for the adult, owing to the lack of starch and sugar, and therefore bread, rice, or some other starchy food must be served with the eggs. The plan of eating soft-boiled eggs from egg cups, in which slices of bread are dipped, is to be commended.

EGGS AND THEIR USES AS FOOD.

Cooked in various ways, eggs are a favorite animal food, to a certain extent taking the place of meat. When cooked in different ways there are marked changes in both the appearance and structure of eggs. An egg placed in boiling water not over two minutes will have a thin coating of coagulated white next the skin, the remainder will be milky, but not solid, while the yolk, though warm, will be entirely fluid. This is called "very soft-boiled." If the egg is kept in boiling water two minutes, or a little over, the white becomes entirely coagulated. The egg thus cooked is termed "waxy." If the boiling be extended to three minutes or more, the egg shows a tendency to rise in the water and will be solid throughout; it is then "solid-boiled." If the boiling is continued up to ten minutes or longer, the egg is "hard-boiled." The white of such an egg is hard and elastic, and the yolk crumbles readily. Heat more or less completely coagulates and hardens the albumen, making all these changes.

If the white of the egg is gently warmed, no change is noticed until the temperature reaches 134 degrees Fahrenheit, when coagulation commences. White fibres appear, which become more numerous, until at about 160 degrees Fahrenheit the whole mass is coagulated, the white almost opaque, yet it is tender and jelly like. If the temperature is raised and continued to 212 degrees Fahrenheit (the temperature of boiling water) the coagulated albumen becomes much harder, and eventually more or less tough and horn like; it also undergoes shrinkage. When the whole egg is cooked in boiling water the temperature of the interior does not immediately reach 212 degrees Fahrenheit, several minutes being probably required. It has been found by experiment that the yolk of the egg coagulates firmly at a lower temperature than the white.

Dr. C. F. Langworthy says that eggs being especially rich in protein (the nitrogenous ingredient of food) a material is furnished that is required by man to build and repair the tissues of the body. Some energy is also furnished by protein, but fats and carbohydrates supply the greater part of the total amount needed. The doctor says that combining eggs with flour and sugar (carbohydrates) and butter, cream, etc. (fat), is perhaps an unconscious effort to prepare a food which shall more nearly meet the requirements of the body than either ingredient alone. When eggs, meat, fish, cheese, or other similar foods rich in protein are eaten, such other foods as bread, butter, potatoes, etc., are usually served at the same time, the object being, even if the fact is not realized, to combine the different classes of nutrients into a suitable diet. The wisdom of such combination, as well as of other generally accepted food habits, was proved long ago by practical experiences. The reason has been more slowly learned.

On an average, a hen's egg is 2.27 inches in length and 1.72 inches in diameter or width at the broadest point, and weighs about two ounces, or eight eggs to the pound (one and a half pounds to the dozen). The shell of hens' eggs constitute about 11 per cent, the yolk 32 per cent, and the white 57 per cent of the total weight of the egg. According to tests made at the New York State Experiment Station, white shelled eggs have a somewhat heavier shell than brown shelled eggs.

The following table shows the average composition of eggs:

	Refuse.	Water.	Protein.	Fat.	Ash.	Fuel value per pound calories
Whole egg, as purchased	11.2	65.5	11.9	9.3	0.9	635
Whole egg, edible portion		73.7	13.4	10.5	1.0	720
White		86.2	12.3	.2	.6	250
Yolk		49.5	15.7	33.3	1.1	1,705
Whole egg boiled, edible portion ..		73.3	13.2	12.0	.8	765
White-shelled eggs, as purchased ...	10.7	65.6	11.8	10.8	.6	675
Brown-shelled eggs, as purchased ...	10.0	64.8	11.9	11.2	.7	695

The above figures represent average values. Individual specimens vary more or less. Analysis shows that eggs consist chiefly of protein and fat. These are in addition to water and mineral or ash. Carbohydrates present such a small amount that no notice is taken of them in the analysis. The nitrogenous or protein matter is the nutrient which is required to build and repair body tissue, as already stated, while the fat is useful for supplying energy. Some energy is derived from protein. Mineral matter is needed by the body for many purposes. Eggs of all sorts in composition resemble such animal foods as milk, meat and cheese more than such vegetable foods as flour and potatoes.

The cooked egg does not differ very materially in composition from the raw, though there is a marked difference in texture. The yolk and white differ greatly in composition. The former contains considerable ash and fat, while the latter is practically free from fat and has a very small amount of ash. The white contains somewhat less protein and about twice as much water as the yolk. The water is not visible as such, but is combined with the other constituents, so that the whole food is more or less moist, liquid or juicy.

An inspection of the table given above will show that there is practically no difference between dark and white shell eggs, although many believe that the former are richer in flavor. Both the New York State and the California Experiment Stations made a number of analyses. At the California Experiment Station the brown-shelled eggs were laid by Partridge Cochins, Dark Brahmas,

Black Langshans, Wyandottes and Barred Plymouth Rocks. The white-shelled eggs were laid by Brown Leghorns, Buff Leghorns, White Minorcas and Black Minorcas.

The Michigan Experiment Station also analyzed the eggs of a number of different breeds, though the special object was not to determine whether there was any relation between the color of the shell and the composition of the eggs. However, no constant variation in the eggs of the different breeds was observed. These tests and others like them justify the statement that the eggs of one breed, whatever the color of the shells, are as nutritious as those of another, provided they are of the same size and the fowls are equally well fed.

Eggs contain more water than does cheese, but are more concentrated than either milk or oysters. In water content they do not differ much from the average value of lean meat.

One of the constituents of egg albumen is sulphur. The bad odor of rotten eggs is due largely to the presence of hydrogen sulphid and phosphureted hydrogen, which is also formed. The shell of the egg is porous.

The shell of the egg is made up largely of mineral matter, containing 93.7 per cent calcium carbonate, 1.3 per cent magnesium carbonate, 0.8 per cent calcium phosphate, and 4.2 per cent organic matter.

Eggs that are perfectly fresh have the finest flavor. Age deteriorates the flavor, even if there is no sign of spoiling. Stale eggs are not palatable and spoiled eggs are totally unfit for food. But even the fresh egg can be spoiled in flavor if the food is not the purest and proper kind. The New York Experiment Station says the eggs laid by hens fed a highly nitrogenous ration were inferior to those from hens fed a carbonaceous ration. The North Carolina Experiment Station fed a small quantity of chopped wild onion tops and bulbs to a number of hens, and in about two weeks the onion flavor was noticed in the eggs laid by the hens. A week after the feeding of onions was discontinued the disagreeable flavor was no longer noticed.



An Exhibition Barred Plymouth Rock Male



The Handling and Marketing of Eggs

By HARRY M. LAMON

Junior Animal Husbandman, Animal Division, Bureau of Animal Industry, Department of Agriculture

(CONCLUDED)

STATE of Kansas was selected as a working base for three reasons: First, output of eggs is large, while the quality has usually been low; second, the buyers of the State had already made at least one attempt to enforce the loss-off system of buying, which indicated a receptive spirit on their part; third, the statutes of Kansas contain provisions giving the State board of health abundant authority to prevent the sale of bad eggs within the State. The first attempt to enforce the loss-off system of buying failed because the buyers in the territory along the borders of the State met competition from adjacent States where the case-count system was in operation, became discouraged, and in self-defense reverted back to the case-count system. The other buyers of the State in turn felt compelled to return to the case-count basis, and the entire agreement soon fell to pieces.

In attacking the problem, the bureau concentrated its efforts upon those measures which were most important and which gave promise of accomplishing the most good. The two main lines were: First, the encouragement of the loss-off system of buying; and, second, a close and careful examination of the conditions surrounding the marketing of eggs all the way from production to the packing house. As has been pointed out before, the packers are keen, shrewd business men, handling a large bulk of eggs, so that they realize the necessity of good treatment after the product reaches their hands. While there is still room, no doubt, for considerable improvement in methods from this point on, this end of the trade is much further advanced at the present time, so that the greatest need for the improvement of methods of handling and thus of improving the quality of eggs is from the farm to the packing house.

ENCOURAGING THE LOSS-OFF SYSTEM OF BUYING.

Where the loss-off system of buying is in use the eggs as bought are "candled"—that is, subjected to a test which shows, quite definitely, their condition and quality. Candling is performed by holding the egg up to a small hole about the size of a half dollar, cut in a shield of metal or other material,

behind which is a strong light. Usually this light is furnished by an ordinary 16-candlepower incandescent lamp, but a lamp, candle, or even the sunlight may be utilized. The person candling the eggs is in a dark or semidark room, so that the light shines through the eggs, and when the latter are twirled they reveal to an expert eye the condition of their contents. By this test it is possible to detect rots, spots, and deteriorated eggs, such as shrunk, weak, watery, and heated eggs. In paying for eggs bought on this basis the rots and usually the spots and blood rings are thrown out entirely, so that they become a dead loss to the person responsible for them. Often in buying from the farmer no other distinction is made. The eggs are simply divided into two classes, one of which is good enough to accept and pay for, and the other is rejected and no payment made therefor. Such a classification is a distinct step forward and results in a great improvement in the eggs. Indeed, there are many reasons for believing that such a simple system is preferable when dealing with the farmers to one where other grades are made according to quality and for which different prices are paid, because the farmer is prone to think he is being cheated if a part of his eggs are accepted but bring a less price than the others.

The first step in encouraging the use of this system was to get the buyers together. With the cooperation of officers of the State board of health and the Kansas State Agricultural College, a meeting of the Kansas Carlot Shippers' Association was held in Topeka, on June 10, 1910, where an agreement was entered into to buy strictly on a loss-off basis after July 1, 1910. Profiting by the failure of the former attempt to bring about the loss-off system of buying, the persons behind the movement early enlisted the support of the State board of health. This was an important step, without which the movement would have met the same fate as its predecessor, for the activity of the State board of health served to keep the wavering buyers in line through fear of prosecution for handling bad eggs. The secretary of the board, Dr. S. J. Crumbine, was most active in supporting the movement and lent the force of his department to its successful operation. Placards in the form of a

warning against the buying of eggs upon any but the loss-off system were printed and posted in 3,000 stores throughout the State where eggs were bought or sold.

INVESTIGATION OF CONDITIONS.

As a second step the efforts of the bureau were directed to a comprehensive study of the conditions in the field, and a campaign of education among the Kansas farmers was immediately begun. A packing house was selected whose manager was in sympathy with and believed in the practical good to be accomplished by such a study. The association with such a packing house made it possible to follow shipments of eggs, whenever desired, from the farm to this point and to observe changes which might occur. By virtue of enjoying the confidence and friendship of the manager it was also possible to get in touch with some of the smaller buyers and stores shipping eggs to him. Through these buyers and storekeepers it was again possible to make the acquaintance and secure the confidence of the farmers furnishing them with eggs. Thus a complete chain was established from the farm to the packing house, all parts of which had a direct interest in the egg business and all of which were willing to give the bureau any help possible. For present purposes only those conditions will be briefly discussed which have a direct bearing on the quality of eggs.

INSUFFICIENT NUMBER OF NESTS.

It is doubtful if any other one factor contributes more to the aggregate number of bad eggs on the farm than the lack of a sufficient number of properly located, clean nests. The average number of nests on the Kansas farms observed was 11 to every 100 hens. This means that nearly 50 per cent of the fowls are compelled to seek nests for themselves. The horse stable, straw stack, under the corner, or out in the weeds are the places usually chosen by the hens when a sufficient number of nests are not available. It is well known that a vigorous bacterial growth depends largely upon moisture and warmth, and these factors are usually present in such places. The result is that when a nest full of such eggs is discovered, from

50 to 80 per cent of the eggs have already developed into seconds, blood-rings, and rots. If nests are provided at the rate of one for every four or five hens and kept free from vermin, it is only occasionally that a hen will lay elsewhere.

DIRTY NESTS.

It hardly seems necessary to make any mention of dirty nests, but the investigations of the year 1911 prove conclusively that either through carelessness, neglect, or utter indifference the nests often become so filthy that the hens refuse to lay in them. When such nests are used the new-laid eggs come in contact with the droppings of the fowls (which are high in bacterial content) and may be thoroughly infected with bacteria before they are removed from the nest. This does not necessarily mean that the eggs are unfit for food at this time, but the infection having taken place, they are likely subjects for the production of spots and rots. One of the greatest needs, therefore, in improving the condition of eggs on the farm is to provide an abundance of clean nests, free from vermin.

IRREGULARITY IN GATHERING THE EGGS.

The custom of combining forces and organizing a general search party to gather in the eggs on market day is still practiced on many of the farms in Kansas. This is, indeed, a deplorable custom and there is no question that it is the cause of many rotten eggs. It is easy to see how eggs allowed to remain for several days or a week in the unsuitable places where there may have been laid, subjected probably to high temperature, wet by dew and by rain, and perhaps sat upon by a broody hen, are certain to have undergone serious deterioration, if they are not absolutely spoiled.

ALLOWING MALES TO RUN WITH FLOCK AFTER HATCHING SEASON.

Allowing the males to run with the flock after the hatching season is the usual rather than the unusual condition. Of ninety-two Kansas farms from which detailed information on this point is available, there were only sixteen on which any effort had been made to separate the males from the hens after the hatching season, while on the remaining seventy-six farms the males and hens ranged together. Justification for this practice is sometimes sought in the argument that there will be some stolen nests undiscovered for so long that even the conscience cultivated by the case-count system of buying will not consent to their being marketed. If these eggs had been fertilized by allowing the males to run with the flock a part of the eggs would have hatched and the loss would not have been absolute. It should be borne in mind, however, that a much greater loss actually does occur when the eggs are fertile, for it is from the fertile eggs only that the great mass of bad and deteriorated eggs, known as heated eggs, blood-rings, and many of the rots, develop. With the eradication of fertile eggs during the hot summer months the whole problem of heated eggs would be solved. Surely this is not a difficult condition to bring about if each one would do his part.

INEFFICIENT STORING FACILITIES.

This is a serious difficulty with which the farmer's wife has to contend, as a great many of the country homes in Kansas do not have dry, cool cellars, and when the thermometer begins to register from 100 to 106° F. she is at a loss to know where to keep perishable produce. To overcome this difficulty use is often made of the "cyclone cellar" or cave. In some instances these caves are of concrete construction throughout, and on such farms very little difficulty is experienced in keeping eggs in good condition. Some of the caves, however, are nothing more than oblong holes in the ground, over which a rough gable roof is

built. The soil which is excavated to make the cave is thrown over this roof and thoroughly packed so as to make it cool and practically waterproof. Caves of such construction are very hard to keep clean on account of the dampness and mold, which are always present when dirt walls and floors are used, and consequently they are very undesirable as a storage room for eggs. Dampness is conducive to the rapid development of mold and bacteria, and consequently eggs kept in these caves are more likely to show deterioration than if they were held in a dry room at the same temperature.

WASHING EGGS.

The lack of the necessary number of clean nests and irregularity in gathering eggs, especially on rainy days, result in a large number of dirty eggs. These dirty eggs are offensive to the neat housewife and, in consequence, they are often washed before being taken to town. This practice, while not always harmful, may result in the egg becoming contaminated with some form of micro-organism. We have already learned that the egg-shell itself is not germ-proof, for the pores that admit air for the chick to breathe are large enough to allow the invasion of all forms of bacteria. The membrane beneath the shell, however, is comparatively germ-proof as long as it remains dry, hence the desirability of preventing dirty eggs, so that water will not have to be brought in contact with them.

HOLDING EGGS UNTIL A DEFINITE NUMBER HAVE BEEN ACCUMULATED.

The farmer often makes use of an egg case in which to keep his eggs and carry them to market. Sometimes he owns the case and sometimes it is furnished by the storekeeper. Often the case is one holding thirty dozen eggs, and as there is a tendency to wait until the case is filled, which takes considerable time with the average-sized flock, before taking it to market, the quality of some of the eggs will have suffered appreciably. Twelve-dozen size cases are also used for this purpose and are much preferable, as they encourage more frequent marketing.

Another factor which influences the frequency of marketing is the distance of the farm from the village or country store. The greater the distance, the less often are the trips made and consequently the less convenient it is to market eggs frequently. The table below indicates this tendency:

Distance of market in relation to frequency of marketing on 90 Kansas farms.*

Twice Weekly		Weekly		Once in two weeks	
Number of farms	Average distance	Number of farms	Average distance	Number of farms	Average distance
	Miles		Miles		Miles
26	2.48	61	4.12	3	8.5

CARELESS METHODS OF TRANSPORTATION FROM FARM TO VILLAGE.

While this element of egg deterioration does not cause a marked loss or change in itself, because it occupies a relatively brief time, it is nevertheless a contributing factor.

THE CASH BUYER.

The cash buyer or produce dealer may be in business for himself or may be the agent of some large car-lot shipper or creamery company. His method of doing business is very similar to that of the country merchant, except that he offers cash instead of merchandise. He is often not looked upon with favor by the town merchants,

*On two of the farms from which detailed records are available, no eggs were sent to market during a large part of the year. On one, the eggs produced were used at home, while on the other the eggs were sold for hatching.

because they realize that the farmer prefers the cash in order that he may purchase his merchandise from the firm offering the lowest prices. As long as the merchants were able to dispose of their eggs on a case-count basis they could, by offering 1 or 2 cents more per dozen in merchandise, retain the greater part of their trade. The enforcement of the loss-off system, however, is working a slow but sure change in this practice, and a greater proportion of the trade than formerly is going over to the cash buyer.

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT.

The following suggestions for the various persons interested in the egg trade are given by the authors of Bulletin 141 of the Bureau of Animal Industry. Because they indicate the important points to be observed in bringing about improvement of the farm egg of the Middle West, they are repeated here:

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FARMER.

- (1) Improve your poultry stock.
- (2) Keep one of the general-purpose breeds, such as the Plymouth Rock, Wyandotte, Orpington, or Rhode Island Red.
- (3) Provide one clean, dry, vermin-proof nest for every four or five hens.
- (4) Conclude all hatching by June 1 and sell or confine male birds during the remainder of the summer.
- (5) Gather eggs once daily during ordinary times, and twice daily during hot or rainy weather.
- (6) In summer place eggs as soon as gathered in a cool, dry room.
- (7) Use all small and dirty eggs at home.
- (8) Market eggs frequently, twice a week is possible during the summer.
- (9) In taking eggs to market protect them from the sun's rays.
- (10) In selling, insist that the transaction be on a loss-off basis, for if care has been given the eggs, this system will yield more money to the producer.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE COUNTRY MERCHANT AND CASH BUYER.

- (1) Candle and buy on a loss-off basis.
- (2) Allow the farmer to see you candle his eggs occasionally and return those rejected if he wishes them.
- (3) Pack carefully in strong, clean cases and fillers.
- (4) Do not keep eggs in a musty cellar or near oil barrels or other odoriferous merchandise.
- (5) Ship daily during warm weather.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE RAILROAD.

- (1) Provide a covered portion of station platform where egg cases can be stacked and see that the agent stacks them there.
- (2) Provide refrigeration for the eggs on the local freight.
- (3) Where refrigerator cars are used on local freights, see that the doors are kept closed when not loading.
- (4) If refrigeration can not be supplied, provide stock cars for this purpose during the summer.
- (5) Where box cars are used for eggs do not allow freight which may hurt their quality, such as oil barrels, to be loaded in the same car.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE CAR-LOT SHIPPER.

- (1) Buy strictly on a loss-off basis.
- (2) Encourage the smaller buyers to trade on a loss-off basis.
- (3) Join the State Carlot Shippers' Association.
- (4) Cooperate with other shippers and with the State officials in bringing about this system of buying.
- (5) Keep the subject agitated and before the people; in other words, educate them.

By E. H. McDONAGH

After a few seasons' experience and study of the best authorities on turkeys and turkey raising I went to studying the bird herself. I watched her and followed her and investigated her ways in the woods as I would have watched and studied any wild bird. I came to the conclusion, in consequence, that the mother turkey knew more about raising her young than I or any other human being did. I have therefore gradually given up all the time-honored theories that I had imbibed from other turkey raisers and from books, and now take

To return to the question of water to drink. I have found that young turkeys have a wonderful capacity for doing without it. The last place the turkey mother apparently thinks of taking her young is to a stream or other drinking place, though the lusty, downy fellows can swim before their slower brothers of the same hatch are out of the shell. This statement may be questioned, but I am not mistaken.

For some years we have been withholding drinking water from the poults we are occasionally forced to raise by hand or chicken hen. If by some mishap we are obliged to house them, their first meal consists of a piece of sod with its damp earth and grit and grasses, and possibly ants and insects. If possible to get them out on the grass we give no water at all the first week, and if the earth is damp, dew abundant and insects plentiful, furnish no water at all in dishes. When old enough to wander about they are at liberty to go to a little running stream at will.

[illegible]

NOTE.—This Chart will be published each Month in The Feather during the year. Keep a correct record of your birds each month.

TIMELY TOPICS

By PLUMMER McCULLOUGH.

In R. P. J. D. Lincoln Orr has considerable to say about disqualifying birds for down between the toes. Mr. Orr says in part: "Personally I will never disqualify a bird that has down between the toes and I want everybody to know it, and any breeder who refuses to keep a bird on account of some down between the toes is fooling himself, particularly in Columbian Wyandottes. The very best birds I ever owned had a little. They most all have a little. It comes in all breeds—even in Barred Rocks, after years of breeding. It is found also in White Wyandottes. If I ever judge again and I see a cracker-jack of a bird with some down between the toes I'll pull it out myself and I don't care who knows it, either. Feathers, stubs or even down on the legs (shanks) is a different matter, but even then I do not believe in being too harsh. We allow a bleached bird to win. We allow a bird to win whose tail has been so bent that it has a well spread look. We allow a bird to win whose tail has been pulled and is about half or three-fourths grown. We allow a bird to win who has had feathers pulled from the fluff, shanks and tail coverts and we allow them to win in spite of a lot of other things that we know have been done to them, but a poor bird that has had the misfortune of having its toes overlooked is down and out. Now isn't it a pity and ought we not to be ashamed of ourselves? Many purchasers insist on positively clean legs, but from my point of view it is not an important factor, especially in some breeds. I wish to repeat, should I ever be called on to judge I will never throw out a good bird for down between toes. So there, now!"

In one sense Mr. Orr is right; in another sense he is entirely wrong. He is right in the fact that down between the toes should not disqualify. It really should not be a disqualification, although it should be counted a serious defect. The standard makers who made down between the toes a disqualification made a big blunder. On the other hand I think Mr. Orr very much mistaken when he says he will not disqualify a specimen with down between toes, even if the standard does say so. This is where I think "Link" is clear off. If the standard is to be our guide then we must follow its directions, whether they suit us or not. If we don't to this, then the standard is of no earthly use to us and we may just as well throw it in the junk pile. We can not pick out some certain rules that suit us and apply them and then pick out the ones that do not suit us and say we will not apply them. If every judge would do this what kind of judging would we have? If our standard says that down between the toes shall disqualify (and it does), then we should disqualify such specimen. How does Mr. Orr know he has allowed a bleached bird to win? How does he know that he has allowed birds to win that have had their tails bent and pulled, and a "lot of other things?" How do you know positively that these things have been done? Isn't this mostly guess work? Then, too, "Link," tell us what a "lot of other things" are. Some of us poor dumb fellows would like to know. I hope to do some judging myself in my lifetime but I expect to follow the standard, whether it is all just to my liking or

not, and I think every judge should do the same. If a bird with down between toes would win over a bird of mine that did not have, I believe I would raise a kick, and do it quick, too, and I want to say right here that I am no kicker.

In the Poultry Item is an interesting article on Indian Runner Ducks. This Indian Runner Duck muddle has been an interesting one and one that is also a serious one. It has always been my opinion that the English or Pencilled Runner was the original and best Runner. A large breeder of Fawn and Whites told me he thought the Pencilled Runners the best, but as he had more demand at that time for Fawns and Whites he preferred to breed them. Mr. J. W. Walton, of England, is probably one of our very best authorities on Indian Runner Ducks and Mr. Fraser, in his article in the Item, quotes from a letter of Mr. Walton as follows: "This you can tell the American people with confidence, that none of these birds with plain, unlaced or unpencilled feathers in the Ducks can be Indian Runners and the rest are nearly all mongrels, both Fawns and Whites." This is straight talk, friends, from a good writer, and while many of the Fawn and White breeders will not like it, I believe it is absolutely the truth.

We also have a very interesting letter from Mrs. Andrew Brooks. Mrs. Brooks is one of the most successful breeders of English Runners in America and she knows what she is talking about. In her letter she says the American Runners are really mongrels or at best a variety of Indian Runners. This being true, then the Pencilled Runners should be allowed to carry the breed name. For instance, they should be called the Indian Runner and the American Runner, the Fawn and White Indian Runners, and pure white the White Indian Runner, as they are already called. It is not right to make the English Pencilled Runners compete with the American Runners in the show room. They should be in separate classes, as they are already in some shows. We favor the English Pencilled Runners and hope to see them admitted to the standard in the near future.

F. D. Rogers has an article in the Poultry Fancier about the exhibitor that I think worth republishing. In part he writes: "Now, fellow fancier, is just the time to begin to think about the show room. Many times a beginner sends away to some reliable breeder and purchases eggs, perhaps at a long figure, hatches and raises them in a most haphazard way, puts them in the show room in poor condition, then kicks because he did not win all the blue ribbons. Let us pause a second and say right here that eggs from the best birds of any variety in the standard will not produce A No. 1 winners unless they have had the proper care and attention from shell to show room. Chickens are not like burdocks, they have to have care."

There is certainly a lot of truth in the above item. It takes care, good care, every day from the time the birds are hatched till they are matured. It takes more than just ordinary care. Good care includes plenty

of shade and water in hot weather and plenty of food of the right kind.

My good friends, do you know that there is a whole lot in feed? You can take a pretty scabby looking chicken and with plenty of feed make a pretty good bird out of it. You can't feed growing youngsters too much sound grain and dry mash. Indeed, it is not a matter of over-feeding with me, but it is a matter of getting enough feed to keep them going. Feed is high as the deuce and it makes a fellow go down in his pockets good and deep when he goes to the feed store. However, it don't pay to scrimp along too close and save one dollar by underfeeding where you might have made ten by giving them full and plenty.

We have been feeding considerable skim milk and buttermilk to our chickens this last spring and summer and I want you to put it in your hat that there is nothing better for growing stock than plenty of good skim milk or buttermilk. I prefer skim milk for very young chicks especially, but after they get a few weeks old sour milk or buttermilk will not hurt them, but they will sure grow on it. Milk is rich in protein and will make a good substitute for beef scraps if fed in liberal quantities where the stock has free range. The only objection I had to milk was that it seemed to make the birds dirty. In some way they would soil their plumage, so one day I watched to see how they did it. They would dip their beaks in the milk and then shake their heads after swallowing it, thus sprinkling the milk on their plumage. The milk sticks to their feathers more readily than water does and the dirt sticks to them in this way. Why they shake their heads in this way I don't know, but I think as the milk is thicker than water it probably sticks in their nostrils more or less and they shake their heads to get it out. It has made my White Rocks look as if they had been housed in a coal shed, but that will not hurt them, as it will all come off when they moult; so my advice to you is to feed milk anyway.

You know it has always been claimed that spring water or a spring run is a bad place for little ducklings. Nearly every duck raiser keeps the young ducklings away from the spring runs until partly feathered. I know of a lady who raises ducks and they have free access to the spring run when newly hatched. Part of these are hatched under chicken hens and part under the old ducks. The old ducks take the brood to the water at the very first. In fact, they spend nearly all their time in this spring water. Now most people would say that this would mean sure death for the ducklings, but not so with this lady. She seldom ever loses any and has good success with them and they grow like weeds. Now, is this right or wrong? I am interested in ducks and I would like to know. What about wild ducks? How do they raise their ducklings, in water or on land? My opinion is that they are taken on water when quite young. Another thing that interested me was that this lady seldom ever fed her ducklings over twice per day, no matter how young they were. Her ducks are Indian Runners, of course, and I would like to know more about this matter of letting very young ducklings have free access to running water. Let us hear from others on this subject.

Miller Purvis in a late number of Poultry says: "To be sure the activities of the association do not result in enough practical advance in poultry

keeping to amount to enough to quarrel over. The principal aim seems to be to get new members and publish a standard which will yield a good profit."

Yes, and they don't even publish a good standard. Breeders will not get used to the 1910 (or was it 1912?) standard till they will be out with a 1915 standard, with a lot of unnecessary changes. But we are not going to borrow trouble. We have enough without. The 1915 standard may not be out till 1918. Maybe not then, who knows. But really it looks foolish to me for a poor man to spend his ten dollars for membership when all he gets out of it is his vote and possibly not that every time.

As for myself, with a bunch of growing chicks that have ferocious appetites, with the hens on a strike and the old brindle cow failing on her milk and feed bills staring me straight in the face I will have to say that I have other use for my \$10.

In Poultry Review Rev. W. W. Cox has a splendid article entitled "Build Up Your Flock By Purchasing Good Birds." Rev. Cox says in part: "If you have a flock of fowls that are not up to your ideal do not waste time in attempting to better them by the slow process of breeding by selection, but buy what you want, even if you have to discard your old flock entirely and begin with a new flock of choice birds. It is possible that you can secure satisfactory results by purchasing a cockerel that will build up your flock at some particular point."

This is very good advice, as it surely does not pay to keep a lot of poor birds. The very best we can afford is poor enough, especially when you can not afford the very best.

Of course if we discard every bird that is not up to our ideal we would have to discard all of ours and the deuce of it would be for me to get any that were up to my ideal. Perfect birds don't come often and it is such birds that are my ideal. However, Rev. Cox means well and he is no doubt a little unlike the Irishman who was having his employer write home to his brother. After telling him many things to write to his brother he said: "And tell him Oi have mate to eat twice a week." His employer stared at him in astonishment and exclaimed: "Why, Mike! You know you have meat every day." "Yes, be jabbers," said Mike, "but it's no use to tell him more than he'll believe."

For the first time in our lives we have used Zenoleum in our poultry houses for lice and as a disinfectant. We have sprayed the roosts and walls with it and I believe it is a splendid article. We never took much stock in dipping fowls, but as the direction said it was sure death to lice I decided to give it a trial. I dipped a few head in a weak solution (about half a pint to a pail of water) and while it stains white fowls some it surely fixes the lice, as I found many dead lice on these fowls but no live ones. They should be dipped on a warm day when the sun is hot, so they will dry as soon as possible.

On the Job

If you are on your job regularly you will find that your work in the poultry yard is much easier to attend to. It is the fellow who is constantly putting off doing things that loses in the end. Breeding poultry for profit needs an active, wide awake hustler all the time.

SOUTHERN NEWS NOTES

By T. D. SIMMONS

R. L. Simmons, of Charlotte, has been elected President of the North Carolina branch of the American Poultry Association. Mr. Simmons is also a member of the reception committee at the Nashville meeting of the A. P. A.

At a recent meeting of the Southeastern Poultry Association three of the judges were elected. They are Messrs. H. B. Schwab, J. W. Dennis, and Loring Brown. Other judges, among them the bantam judge, will be elected later.

Dr. W. C. Cleckley, of Augusta, Ga., is a candidate for vice president of the A. P. A. The Doctor is one of the leading poultry fanciers in the South, a perfect gentleman, and will make a good officer. The association will do well to elect him.

Jas. S. Jeffreys is no longer connected with the North Carolina Experimental Station. Mr. E. C. Warden, a practical poultry man, is being highly recommended for this position. He is one of the oldest poultry raisers in the State, and we hope that he will land the job.

We want all the club meetings that we can get for the annual show of the Southeastern Association, and will make the cash and cup prizes attractive if we can get them. Secretaries of clubs let Mr. H. H. Hackney, the secretary, hear from you about this. We would especially like to get the Game Bantam Club.

The Augusta, Ga., Association, which holds its show in connection with the fair, has outgrown its old quarters. In a recent letter from Dr. Cleckley, the president, he states the Fair Association has turned over the main building to the Poultry Association. The Doctor says that they can now spread themselves out.

We noticed in the May issue of the Feather an article on Bantams. This is what we want. Most all poultry papers ignore the Bantams, and some occasionally say a few words in their interest. The writer breeds Bantams, talks Bantams, and does everything else to boost them. We want to see more Bantams at all the shows, and will help all that is in our power to see them there.

There is some talk of pulling off a dog show here in connection with the fair in October. Mr. C. M. Creswell, a leading spirit in such undertakings, is advocating it, and we would not be surprised to see a first-class dog show here this fall. The fair association will also hold a large poultry show, which will be cooped with new coops and a nice new building. The shows in connection with the fairs are being better patronized in this section every year, and we hope to see the one here a second Hagerstown.

Mr. W. Gould Brokaw, New York millionaire, has purchased the famous Mida Springs property, near Charlotte, and will make it one of the best poultry plants in the South. They have begun buying and hatching the pigeons, chickens, turkeys, etc. Mr. W. R. Byford, who has had charge of this business near High Point, N. C., has

been placed in charge of the business here. He is going to make a specialty of Langshans, White Wyandottes and Turkeys. Mr. Byford has also been elected assistant secretary of the Southeastern Poultry Association.

We often hear of beginners getting unfair treatment from the old breeders, but did not know it was practiced in this section until last week. A breeder of Buff Cochins, and a man who is a member of the Buff Cochins Club, sold a beginner a setting of eggs the first of May. These eggs were set and the party did not get a chicken. He brought the eggs to us and upon examining them we find the following dates on them: 4-9, 2-25, 3-20, 3-24, 3-26, 3-29, 3-31, and the other not dated. The freshest egg was thirty days old. The party who sold these eggs was told of the fact and he refused to make the eggs good or refund the money. We think that the A. P. A. should take hold of such cases, as it is hurting the industry, and discouraging people who are thinking of breeding fine chickens.

The officers of the Southeastern Poultry Association are working hard in the hope of pulling off the largest show in Charlotte ever held in the South. The cash prizes will be large, and will bring out a large exhibit. New coops will be bought which will make a nice appearance. The Auditorium, which will hold about ten thousand birds, has been secured as the show room. This building is the best in the

South for the holding of poultry shows and is in the center of the city. It will pay the Northern breeders to put this show on their list. We are especially anxious to get out a large exhibit of bantams and all kinds of pet stock. We are willing to put the money in prizes to get them, and will appreciate any help the Bantam and pet stock breeders will give us.

At the meeting of the board of directors on May 10, Judge R. L. Simmons resigned as secretary and Mr. H. H. Hackney was elected as new secretary. Judge Simmons could not give the position the time required and fill his judicial engagements. Mr. Hackney is a good man and will work for a large show. Remember the dates, January 3-7, 1913.

General Purpose Fowls

The general-purpose breeds of poultry, such as the Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds and Orpingtons, should be kept on the farm rather than small-egg breeds or small mongrel stock. It should also be remembered that the dark-plumaged varieties do not, as a rule, look as well when dressed as poultry of other colors.

Usually, more interest is taken with a flock of fowls that are of the same breed and color, and it is an established fact that such a flock produces a more uniform product, which invariably secures to the owner higher prices than can be derived from the product of a mongrel flock.

As soon as the hatching season is over all male birds should be marketed, they having no influence whatever on the number of eggs laid, and eggs produced by flocks composed of females only keep much better than eggs from hens that are allowed to run with males.

As soon as the cockerels weigh three-quarters of a pound they should be penned for 10 or 12 days and fed all they will eat of corn chop or a wet mash composed of 2 parts corn meal, 1 part bran, and 1 part low-grade flour. If this mixture can be dampened with skim milk, it will add much to its fattening and bleaching qualities. Birds that are being fattened should be fed in troughs rather than in litter as exercise at this time is not conducive to rapid gains in weight. The birds should be kept as quiet as possible.

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Care of Brooder Chicks

When the eggs in the incubator are all done hatching and the chicks dry and fluffy I take a shallow basket—a good sized clothes basket preferred to all else—and in the bottom of this I spread a thick newspaper to keep from soiling the basket, then a layer of chaff and fine hay or grass or feathers that are of no use, if I have a few such, and make a wide, shallow nest. I heat a brick or stone and wrap it in cloth and sink it into the bottom of their nest. Into this nest I put the chicks, as many in each nest as can cuddle down comfortably, and set them in a warm room.

To give them something to take notice of I sprinkle a few rolled oats on their backs and they will peck at this a little. They will be tired in an hour or two, then I cover the top of the nest with anything handy, a rug, or shawl, or quilt, anything that will keep heat in and light and cold out. If in a basket there is no danger of smothering, even if there be a hundred in it. If in a box or barrel I leave one corner open a very little for ventilation. Don't ventilate too much. It takes a good deal to smother a chick after it gets to using its own lungs, but it doesn't take much to chill it.

If you like to see pretty sights lift the covering after they have had time to go to sleep. They will lie each with its head on its neighbor so sound asleep that they look as if dead. Uncover in an hour or two and sprinkle in more oats. At night see that the heating arrangement is warm and cover them as for sleeping in the day. Next morning they will be ready for the brooders.

My brooders are home made. The only others that I ever had I did not like nearly so well as I do the simple affair that I use. A large, shallow goods box is the foundation, that can be purchased at most stores for ten cents. Nail four blocks or sticks two inches square under the corners to raise it from the floor to prevent sweating. Cut a piece of inch mesh netting large enough for a cover and hinge it on or not, just as one likes. Cover the bottom with paper, then with chaff from the feed floors, or with fine cut grain or hay. To heat it, take a gallon stone jug for preference, although a tin syrup can does very well. Fill this with hot water, wrap it well in soft cloth and set in the middle of the box. One word of warning. Always stand the heating arrangement on end unless it has perfectly flat sides. A round heater laid on its side is a death trap. Those nearest will tuck their heads under it. Those behind will push up and they will suffocate.

Put the chicks, about fifty, in a box 3x4, or larger, into this brooder and give them a feed of rolled oats. A drinking fountain may be made of a bowl inverted in a saucer. Some arrangement for drinking must be had that will prevent them from wetting themselves or tipping it over to wet their brooder. A small fountain can usually be bought at a hardware store. One that can be fastened to the side of the box is best.

When they begin to make a funny noise, cover the brooder with a rug and let them sleep an hour or so. To ventilate the brooder bore half-inch holes near the top, two on each of the four sides. Fill the heater morning and evening. Feed every time after a nap, four or five times at first. I feed dry food as less likely to cause bowel trouble. The grain food is rolled oats for the first week, then finely cracked wheat and corn with some oats. I save the infertile eggs. For fifty chicks I boil two or three of these hard daily. I cut them in half and put them into the brooder. The chicks will soon clean the shell. I bake potatoes and serve in

the same way, two or three a day. A bone with gristle on it will keep them busy a long time.

Clean brooders as often as they seem dirty and keep plenty of fine grit on the floors. Dry fed chicks will not foul a brooder nearly so quick as mash fed chicks. If the weather is warm they should have a grass run as soon as possible. These brooders can be easily converted into outdoor brooders by building a slightly slanting roof over them and making a door in the side for the chicks to run in and out. The only safe way to raise chicks, either brooder or with a hen, is to have covered runs. They cost little and will last for years. A light frame of wood 1½x4x12, covered with inch-mesh netting can be moved to fresh grass every day. The coop can fill one end and the chicks will be secure from flying or prowling foes.

In cleaning the brooders the refuse may be gathered up in the paper lining and removed very easily. Lining paper in the bottom will save much labor in cleaning.—Successful Farming.

Shows and Associations

The grand championship poultry Futurities inaugurated by the Great Allentown Fair Poultry Show, nominations for which closed April 1, have proved by the number of entries received that the idea is approved by poultry people and that eventually they can be made a great success.

W. Theo. Wittman, in charge, writes us "that no one regrets more than he does that the first year of these Futurities should have to follow the coldest winter known in forty years in Pennsylvania and nearby States. And, that added to this, the spring should have been very cold and backward and that a great many breeders were in no position to nominate birds at the time of closing of entries."

Perhaps for every letter received with an entry as many as four to five were received saying the writers were in no position to enter, "that they had no chicks yet" or "that eggs were not hatching."

This shows that hut for weather conditions these Futurity stakes would have been of large amounts. As it is they stand as follows:

White Orpington cockerels.....	\$60.00
White Orpington pullets.....	60.00
White Leghorn cockerels.....	56.00
White Leghorn pullets.....	54.00
White Plymouth Rocks (totals)	32.00
White Wyandottes (totals)....	66.00
Rhode Island Reds (totals)....	54.00
Game Bantams (totals).....	24.00

One of the reasons for each of a maximum entry this first year was the seeming fact that to a great many breeders the word "Futurity" was one that they could not entirely comprehend the meaning of, being new to the poultry world. Another reason seemed to be that the date of closing seemed to be too early as quite a number of entries were received too late and had to be returned and that entries are still arriving.

It will be noticed that the stakes in the last four varieties have been combined as, according to the published rules, only in case the nomination fees amounted to over \$50 in cockerels and in pullets each, would separate stakes be made.

Sixty-six dollars, fifty-four dollars even twenty-four dollars are tidy sums to win with some one good bird and that it will be genuine and clean sport is assured by the fact that each and every one of the birds shown in these Futurities will have to be absolutely reared by the party showing it.

These Futurities will be continued year to year at Allentown. It is expected they will open up a new and



PRICES FOR CLASSIFIED ADS.

Fully prepaid advertisements of twenty-five words or less inserted under this heading at the following rates:

One time	\$1.00
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Six times	4.00
One year	7.00

Copy may be changed as often as desired, though we advise running a standard ad when possible, in order that buyers may become acquainted with it. Length of ad is not limited, but additional words will be charged for at the rate of 4 cents each for one insertion, or 2½ cents each for each insertion when run three times or more. Figures count as single words.

PLYMOUTH ROCKS

BARRED ROCK EGGS FOR HATCHING. Cockerel line exclusively. All infertile eggs replaced. Eggs from pens headed by 4th Cockerel at Williamsport, 1911; 1st and 2d Cockerel at Germantown, 1912. \$2 and \$3 per 15. W. S. Stokes, Edgemont, Pa.

WYANDOTTES

"REGAL" WHITE WYANDOTTES "DUSTON." Direct from Martin. Stay white. Chicks: 20 cents; 100, \$15. Eggs: 15, \$1.50; 50, \$4; 100, \$6. Elwood Taylor, Berwyn, Md.

WYANDOTTES—BOYD'S WASHINGTON Strain of Black Wyandottes are still winning. Stock and eggs for sale. Write for circular and prices. Geo. H. Boyd, 1255 Morse St. N. E., Washington, D. C.

WYANDOTTES—STOCK AND EGGS To sell from winners of White Wyandottes at Washington, Warrenton, Richmond, etc. Circular giving winnings and prices sent on request. W. W. Thomas, Catlett, Va.

1,000 PURE DUSTON WHITE WYANDOTTES, raised on 50-acre farm, 20 yards, mated for eggs. Get prices on your wants. Allen Sechrist, Port Trevorton, Pa.

LEGHORNS

BREEDING S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS. Exclusive eggs for sale, \$2 per 15, or \$5 per 100. Satisfaction guaranteed. John M. Yerger, Gilbertsville, Pa.

ROSE COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—WINNERS at Madison Square, Buffalo and Rochester. Mating list and circular. Eight grand pens. Box F. Howard J. Fisk, Falconer, N. Y.

S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS OF SUPERIOR quality. An amalgamation of America's best blood lines. Mated right and bred right. Why experiment? Our stock is beyond that stage. Profit by our loss. Nice stock for sale, both young and old. That will start you on the road to success. Holiday Heights Poultry Farm, Sellersville, Pa.

WHITE ROCKS, WHITE AND BROWN Leghorns. Mating list free. Susquehanna Yards, Route 2, Wrightsville, Pa.

S. C. W. LEGHORNS—HEAVY LAYERS and vigorous stock. Eggs, \$2 per 50; \$3.50 per 100; \$15 for 500. John C. Beck, Middletown, Pa.

ROSE-COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—EGGS and baby chicks for sale. Send for my list of winnings. James G. Todd, Punxsutawney, Pa., Route 4.

ROSE-COMB BUFF LEGHORNS AND Columbian Wyandottes. Eggs for hatching. Stock for sale. Write to Harry A. Crumbling, East Prospect, York Co., Pa.

ORPINGTONS

BLACK ORPINGTON WINNERS AT 7 shows this year, including Baltimore, Hagerstown, for sale. Also Whites. Eggs for hatching. R. D. Lillie, Takoma Park, D. C.

S. C. BUFF ORPINGTONS and R. I. Reds, one pen each, specially mated. Eggs, \$2 per 15. Hollis E. Cole, 80 Oak St., Florence, Mass.

ORPINGTONS—WHITE (BOTH COMBS) Single Comb Buff, Black. New York, Boston, Allentown, Hagerstown, Williamsport winners. Eggs. Baby chicks. Prices reasonable. Mating list free. Wm. Seidel, Box H, Washingtonville, Pa.

GENUINE KELLERSTRASS PEGGY— Crystal King Strain. Stock, eggs and baby chicks. Get my prices before buying. Write for mating list. J. R. Inskeep, Holly, Mich.

KELLERSTRASS STRAIN. WHITE ORPINGTONS. Eggs, \$1.50 per 15; \$7 per 100. Ed. Leclerc, Central City, Iowa.

ROSE COMB BUFF ORPINGTONS— Golden Strain. Great size, color and exhibition qualities. Eggs, \$3 and \$5 per setting. Booklet free. S. D. Lance, Troy, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND WHITES

RHODE ISLAND WHITES. KRYSTAL Strain. Before placing orders send for our free, illustrated catalogue. It proves why Krystal strain is best. Bass Bros., Box 375, Marietta, N. Y.

RHODE ISLAND WHITES. EXCEL- lent winter layers. Eggs from fine matings, \$2 per fifteen. Arthur J. Deex, Berea, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND REDS

YOU WILL NEED THE NEW RHODE Island Red Journal. Devoted to the Reds exclusively. Best advertising medium in the world for Red breeders. No waste circulation. Send 25c. now for full year's subscription to O. A. Studier, Editor, Readiyn, Iowa.

HIGHEST GRADE SINGLE-COMB REDS. Color and shape unsurpassed. Eggs at \$3 per setting of fifteen. Wistaria Poultry Farm, Northfield, Mass., Geo. R. Witte, Proprietor.

ROSE COMB REDS (DE GRAFF STRAIN). Eggs, \$2.50 per 15; also pairs and trios, tested breeders or young stock, very reasonable. Navarre Poultry Yards, Toledo, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND REDS—BOTH COMBS, from finely selected birds, heavy laying strain. Eggs, \$1 per 15, or \$5 per 100. Hugh Brinton, West Chester, Pa.

IF INTERESTED IN STRICTLY FINE, Prize Winning, Rose Comb, R. I. Reds, send postal for my 1912 mating list. You won't regret it. Highland Farm, Herbert M. Tucker, Owner, Canton, Me.

BANTAMS

BANTAM SPECIALIST—BUFF, BLACK, Partridge Cochins and Light Brahmas. I ship on approval—circular free. Geo. C. Salmon, Port Dickinson, N. Y.

MOHAWK BANTAM YARDS. HIGH- Class, Exhibition Black Red and Red Pyle Games, Rose Comb Blacks, Partridge and Buff Cochins. Shipped on approval. Box B, Schenectady, N. Y.

JAPANESE, ROSE COMBS. FRIZZLES, Polish, Cochins, Shikles, Sultans. No circular. M. Hurd, Marshall, Mich.

BANTAMS, EGGS, 34 VARIETIES. SEND 2-cent stamp for circular. A. A. Fenn, Box 92, Delavan, Wis.

GOLDEN SEABRIGHT BANTAMS. Prize winners. Will sell all my old birds cheap. Eggs, \$1.50 for 13. Fred Kintz, Seven Valleys, Pa.

HOUDANS

HOUDANS—NOTHING BUT HOUDANS. Eggs, \$2 per 15, from the largest Houdan breeder in Colorado—three yards. C. G. Walton, Ni Wot, Colo.

most valuable era in the exhibiting of pure-bred poultry. The scope of them will be enlarged yearly and it is hoped to have soon futurities in all leading varieties of poultry and certainly in all the various breeds.

As intimated in all previous announcements this poultry futurity idea is not to be used or copied by other poultry shows. "The Great Allentown Fair Poultry Show having inaugurated the idea and being the first to use it shall wish to continue to have the one and only American Poultry Futurity."

W. THEO. WITTMAN,

It seems that all the Rhode Island Red clubs are having troubles of their own inasmuch as the business of every one of them has been sadly neglected on account of sickness of the secretary. The National S. C. Rhode Island Red Club is no exception. It is to be regretted that its otherwise very able and active secretary, J. H. Valliere, is in such poor health that it has been impossible for him to take care of all the business that the duties of his office required. Business of the club has been neglected for a number of years, for although he often tried it, Mr. Valliere could never get anyone to take the office. Consequently many complaints were and are still received because cups and ribbons were not received by their winners, and letters were not answered as promptly as they should have been. All this is due not to negligence on the part of Mr. Valliere, but to the fact that he is actually in a critical condition.

At the last meeting of the club, at Belle Plaine, Iowa, A. G. Studier, of Waverly, Iowa, was elected secretary, and he is now at work in getting all the machinery of the club back into running order, and before long everything will again be running smoothly.

All letters addressed to the new secretary are now answered the same day as received, and all business of the club will be handled in a business-like way. All delinquent members are requested to pay up their dues promptly. All members joining now will receive membership receipt until October, 1913. All those who have won ribbons or cups not yet received, should write and the matter will be looked after.

The club is preparing to publish its first year book, and it is hoped that all breeders of S. C. Reds, whether members or not, will cooperate in getting out a book that will be a reference work on all matters pertaining to Reds. Write to the secretary for further information.

The Poultry Exhibition at the Tennessee State Fair, Nashville, Tenn., September 16-21, will be bigger and better than ever. The big Poultry Building will be remodeled and rearranged in such a manner that it will be the best lighted and ventilated poultry show building in the country. Additional coops will be purchased and provisions made for cooping 5,000 birds. The premium list will be made the most attractive ever presented the American poultrymen. A large list of cash specials will be offered in pens of the various breeds and varieties. The best judges in America will be engaged. The Poultry Show at the Tennessee State Fair is made one of the big features of this great annual agricultural and live stock exposition and from the standpoint of attendance and interest there is no poultry show on the American continent that can surpass the Tennessee State Fair show.

The Silver Wyandotte Club of America is now preparing for the press a fine, large, interesting catalogue. It is our aim to make this the best ever put out, and no Silver Wyandotte breeder can afford to miss being represented in its pages. Write for

full particulars, advertising rates, etc. All new members who join before June 15 will have their names appear in this book. Henry Steinmesch, President, St. Louis, Mo.; Mrs. Denton Cole, Assistant Secretary, Silver Wyandotte Club of America, 23 Dickson Avenue, Binghamton, N. Y.

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Johnson will start you in the money-making poultry business on a small investment.

JOHNSON'S OLD TRUSTY INCUBATOR

Built like a watch—regulated to a 1/4 degree, will hatch every egg that is hatchable, in any climate.

Old Trusty Incubators and Brooders are made of finest California red wood—middle case of highest grade of asbestos—fire-proof insulation—out case, legs and all of galvanized metal; handsome, mottled finish. Guaranteed not to leak; cold rolled copper tank and heater; can't warp, swell, or open at seams; best thermometer; egg tester, trays, instruction book, ready to run. No worry; safety lamp on outside; regulator of the best. Every exclusive feature of The Old Trusty Incubator and Brooder are owned by Johnson, hence the low price on these high-grade machines. Guaranteed 75% better hatches. Send for our Big Book, gives information of practical poultry raising of 350,000 successful Old Trusty users, in addition to Johnson's practical knowledge and experience in raising poultry on a larger scale. Worth many dollars to you, tells you how you can buy a 120 egg incubator and a 100 chick brooder for less than \$15.00. You need this book whether you buy or not. Send 10 cents to help pay postage, to HARRY D. MOORE, State Sales Mgr., 1829 Baker St., Baltimore, Md.

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FROM STANDARD BRED WINNERS AT NEW YORK, CHICAGO, BOSTON, ST. LOUIS AND CLEVELAND, EGG RECORD 280. EVERY CHICK GUARANTEED. Barred White and Buff Rocks, Brown, White and Buff Leghorns, Black, White and Buff Orpingtons, White Wyandottes, R. I. Reds, Black Minorcas, Anconas, Baby I. R. Ducks. Safe arrival guaranteed. Price, 8c up.

FIRELESS BROODER

made of double walled air cell waterproof cardboard, covered with galvanized steel, guaranteed to last a life time. Price, \$3.00.

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Make Your Hens "Lay and Pay"

This is the slogan of the Poultry business, and if your hens do not lay they do not pay. Eggs mean dollars in these times of high prices and the more eggs you get the more dollars you will have.

It is Easy to Get Eggs

If you follow the rules of those who have made a success of the business. There is no reason why a hen should not lay in winter, if she is provided with the elements which make the egg. When these are provided she will produce the eggs.

The Successful Egg-a-Day Condition Powder

Contains these elements, when combined with the food, to make the laziest hen lay her share of eggs. It is a great Laying Tonic and conditioner of hens. Those who have tried it would not be without it—and now is your time to prove it. See the testimonials on back cover page of this number of The Feather. Send for our new free booklet, "Calendar of Poultry Keeping, 1912." Agents wanted. Regular size box, 1 1/2 lbs., 25 cents; by mail, 45 cents. Five boxes, by express or freight, \$1.00. Sample size, 1/2 lb., 10 cents; by mail, 15 cents.

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ANCONAS—CINCINNATI AND COLUMBUS Ohio State Show, First Prize Winners. Stock, eggs, baby chicks. Write for free catalogue. Evans & Timms, Box W, Malta, Ohio.

SHENK'S ANCONAS LAID ALL THE Winter and laying now. Fifteen eggs, \$1.25; 30, \$2.25; 50, \$3.50. Thirty-six page poultry catalogue free. Clarence Shenk, Luray, Va.

SILVER CAMPINES

IMPROVED SILVER CAMPINES. Excellent layers of large white eggs. Small feeders, hardy, vigorous, easy to raise. Eggs, \$5 per 13. J. L. Paulhamus, Dewart, Pa.

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LIGHT BRAHMAS. THE PURE OLD Strain of Personal Merit. Prize winning matings. Eggs, \$3 per setting. Fine Markings. Heavy layers. A. M. Jacoby, Harrisburg, Pa.

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DARK CORNISH STOCK AND EGGS FOR Sale, also Buff Turkey Toms. Circular free. M. J. Van Eman, Box E, Elgin, Ohio.

FAVEROLLES

ENGLISH SALMON FAVEROLLES AND Lakenfelders. Going west, must sell all my prize winners at a price that will surprise you. C. J. Swanson, Sycamore, Ill.

DOMINIQUE

CARTER'S DOMINIQUE WON EVERY first prize at the last Boston show in a hot class. Beautiful cockerels and pullets for sale, low. A. Q. Carter, Freeport, Me.

EGGS

EGGS AND BABY CHICKS FROM MY grand prizewinners. White and Brown Leghorns, Anconas, Houdans, Brahmas, Reds, Rocks, White Minorcas and Rose Comb and Single Comb Black Minorcas. Eggs, \$1 per 15; chicks, 12 to 15 cents each. Stamps for replies. Louis Waber, New Galilee, Pa.

SIXTY EGGS, \$3; 15, \$1; TWO MEDICATED nest eggs with each order. 26 varieties. Poor hatches duplicated at half price. 26 years as breeders. Circular free. Whitney & Son, Triangle, N. Y.

CHICKENS, EGGS. 22,000 CAPACITY. Barred, White and Buff Rock and Reds. 15 years through culling and selecting for health, vigor and great laying qualities. Safe arrival guaranteed. Brooks Farrar, South Easton, Mass.

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BUFF PLYMOUTH ROCK EGGS FOR hatching from choice matings, \$1.25 per 15, or \$4 per 50. Winegar & Co. Poultry Farm, Ocean, Va.

I AM BOOKING ORDERS FOR EGGS. Best strain of S. C. White Leghorns. A few White Orpington Cockerels for sale. Address Mrs. Dora Brown, 4027 Belle Ave., N. Forest Park, Baltimore, Md.

EGGS FOR HATCHING—LIGHT AND Buff Brahmas, \$2 per 15. If you want good winter layers try mine. C. C. Arnold, Millers Falls, Mass.

PHEASANTS.

PHEASANT EGGS—FROM PEN RAISED, Unrelated Birds. Golden, Silvers, Japanese, Reeves, Amhersts, Swinehaes, Elliotts, English King and Blue Necks. Send for catalogue. Broadway Pheasants, Geneva, Ohio.

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COOK'S PIONEER WHITE-EGG STRAIN of American standard fawu and white Indian Runners. Fine males reasonable. Eggs: 12, \$5; 24, \$8; 50, \$15; 100, \$30. Circular. Irving E. Cook, Munnsville, N. Y.

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USE BAIR'S ALUMINUM BANDS FOR marking poultry and pigeons. Sample dozen, open bands, mailed for one dime. Mention variety you breed. Bair, "The Band Man," 26 Twilight Yards, Hanover, Pa.

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FOR SALE—TRAINED RABBIT HOUNDS. Fox Hounds and Broke Coon, Opossum and Skunk Dogs, Deer and Bear Dogs; and young stock and pet stock; Pigeons, Rabbits and Ferrets. Free price list. Brown Kennels, York, Pa.

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FOR SALE—EGGS FROM MY 1912 S. C. White Orpington winners, from \$1.50 to \$4 per 15. Cook strain. Send for mating list. A few choice cockerels from \$3 to \$5. Bert A. Thompson, Box 700, Groveland Sta., N. Y.

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JUMBO JET BLACKS, FLEMISH GIANTS—Extra Large. Pedigreed Red Belgians. High Grade and Utility Stock. Prices, One Dollar up. Write Jess McCulley, North Lewisburg, Ohio.

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I OFFER GUARANTEED MATED Homers, in any quantity, at \$1 a pair, and challenge squab companies or dealers to produce better stock at twice this price. Beautiful White Homers, \$1.50 pair. Get my prices on Runts, Carneaux and Maltese Hens, and save dollars. Charles C. Gilbert, 1563 East Montgomery Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.

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BULLETIN ON "BALANCED RATION" absolutely free; tells how to compound at home most economical and healthful mash, chick foods, scratch foods. Drop postal, giving your dealer's name and address, to Henola Food Co., Box A-24, Newark, N. J.

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BARRED ROCK BREEDERS—SEND 50 cents for National Barred Rock Journal, the only monthly magazine issued wholly in the interests of the Grand Old Breed. Also the logical advertising medium for Barred Rock breeders. W. L. Robinson, Pub., Union City, Mich.

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BRONZE AND WHITE HOLLAND TURkeys. Fertile eggs \$3 doz. Rocks, Reds, Wyandottes, Leghorns and grand, old Dominiques \$2 per 13; \$5 per 39. Utility birds \$1 per 13. George Enty, Mosgrove, Pa.

CHOICE FIRST-CLASS FANCY PIGEONS. Chickens, Eggs, every variety. Printing of all descriptions. Common pigeons wanted. Write wants, enclosing stamp. Ville, Marietta, Pa.

\$300 QUICK. NET PROFIT PER ACRE growing Horseradish on worn-out land. Full information about culture and market. Corn, peas and all vegetables readily canned so they will keep, also all vegetables may be preserved by the salting method; superior flavor, labor saved, results certain. We tell you, "Profitable Specialties in Agriculture" mailed on receipt of 50 cents. Valuable to every man or woman seeking profitable business, city or country, also to every farmer and housewife. Valley Farm Co., Newburgh, N. Y.

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CAPONS bring the largest profits—100 per cent more than other poultry. Caponizing is easy and soon learned. Progressive poultrymen use **PILLING CAPONIZING SETS**. Postpaid \$2.50 per set with free instructions. The convenient, durable, ready-for-use kind. Best material. We also make Poultry Marker 25c, Gape Worm Extractor 25c, French Killing Knife 50c. Capon Book Free. G. P. Pilling & Son Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

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Breeders of the greatest, egg-laying, Exhibition strains of
Single Comb White Leghorns
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Eggs for hatching and birds for sale. Send for our 1912 Annual Catalogue and prices.

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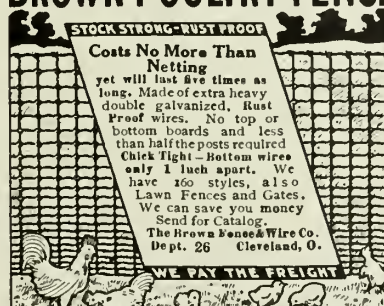
Try a card in the next number and be convinced.

BABY CHICKS

We are now hooking orders for spring delivery Kellerstrass \$30 Matings of Single Comb White Orpingtons and White Leghorns; also imported Mammoth Imperial Pekin ducks. Mating list on request.

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STOCK STRONG—RUST PROOF
Costs No More Than Netting yet will last five times as long. Made of extra heavy double galvanized. Rust Proof wires. No top or bottom boards and less than half the posts required. Chick tight—Bottom wires only 1 inch apart. We have 150 styles, also Lawn Fences and Gates. We can save you money. Send for Catalog. The Brown Fence & Wire Co. Dept. 26 Cleveland, O.
WE PAY THE FREIGHT

BUFF

PLYMOUTH ROCKS

Winners at Washington, D. C.; Somerset, Pa.; Elkins, W. Va.; Cumberland and Frostburg, Md. Eggs in Season—

\$2 and \$3 per 15

FRANK T. PHILLIPS, Lonaconing, Md.
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Genuine Wild Turkeys

As found in the woods of Virginia. No disease among them. The fittest, because only the fittest have survived the onslaught of Man, beast and the elements. Fine specimens for sale. Hens, \$15; Toms, \$20
R. L. BLANTON "Largest Breeder in the World" RICHMOND, VA.



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The Only Original Dry Chick Feed and The World's Standard.
FOR SALE BY
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The Perfected Poultry of America

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THE world's greatest illustrated book of Poultry, Turkeys and Water-fowl, with 117 full-page plates of the fowls, feathers and detailed markings.

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Unlike any other Poultry Book and everybody interested in Poultry should have a copy.

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OPINIONS

OF GREAT PRACTICAL VALUE.

THE PERFECTED POULTRY OF AMERICA contains a detailed description of all standard breeds and varieties of poultry, with illustrations showing correct type, together with feathers from the different sections, so arranged as to make it easily understood and of great practical value. It should find a ready sale among breeders of standard-bred poultry.—Successful Poultry Journal, Chicago, Ill.

We congratulate you on the high quality of the book, THE PERFECTED POULTRY OF AMERICA, both as to subject-matter and illustrations. This book can not help but prove of value to those who are interested in standard-bred poultry.—Poultry Keeper Publishing Co.

A CREDIT TO THE POULTRY INDUSTRY.

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Vol. XVI. No. 8
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MANAGING THE FARM FLOCK

By PLUMMER McCULLOUGH

Nearly every farmer is the owner of a flock of fowls, but I am sorry to say that every farmer does not make his flock of poultry pay him a profit. To bring the most profit, farm poultry must be properly managed. It is not necessary to make any great outlay of money to make the farm flock profitable, but it is necessary to have good stock. Pure bred poultry is the only kind to keep, no matter if you are keeping them only for commercial purposes, and I have little patience with the farmer who is not willing to invest a few dollars to get a start in pure bred fowls. From a small flock of 45 pure bred hens the writer sold over \$215 worth of eggs and stock last year, besides about \$75 worth of stock that was not sold. A few eggs were sold for hatching and some stock for breeding purposes. The balance was sold at market prices. The prices at no time were large. While this is no record to brag about, I am confident I could not have done so well with mongrel hens. So the first thing, as I have said, is to get pure bred stock, strong in constitutional vigor. This is especially important, as you must have strong, healthy, vigorous stock if you are to make much progress. Another very important matter is to have a roomy, comfortable house for the farm flock. This house should face the south, with the walls and roof as tight as possible. This can be accomplished by a liberal use of lining paper. The front should have plenty of openings for light and I think when it is not too cold, it is best to have a muslin curtain or frame take the place of a window or two, so as to give the fowls an abundance of fresh air. A good floor for the poultry house is very essential. If a board floor, it should be tight, so no grain will be lost by being scratched through cracks. If a dirt floor it should be kept a few inches higher than the outside ground, so as to be always dry. The dirt should be changed every fall and spring also, to avoid any danger of disease. If you want to make your money out of winter eggs it will be necessary to get your pullets hatched early. March pullets are the ones that fill the winter egg basket as a rule. They get matured and laying before cold weather sets in and keep it up all winter. Whether you need an incubator and brooder or not will depend on your circumstances. You will have to decide that question. If you do buy an incubator get a good one. There are dozens of different makes, some good and some not fit for kindling wood. Don't buy an incubator simply because the price is low. Better get a good machine at the first or you will lose enough eggs to pay for several if you experiment on a poor, cheap thing. Notice what kind the most successful breeders are using. They are pretty safe to follow.

You will need about ten or twelve brood coops, for hens and chicks, if you use them for hatching. It is not necessary to buy expensive brood coops. A good coop can be made out of a coffee box or any box of like size. Make the front of galvanized screen, so no weasels can get in. White wash the box inside and out, then cover the outside with a good roofing paper; cut a small door in one end and you have a cheap, comfortable and verminproof coop at a cost of about fifteen cents. They should be stored away after you

are through using them in the fall and kept in the dry for future use. You should have ten or twelve of these, as they do not cost much and can be made now when you are not particularly busy at other work. Another thing you should have is a few colony houses for your young stock after they are weaned from the hens or brooders. You can make these any size you wish, but for young stock I like them about 6 feet long, 4 feet wide, 4 feet high in front and 3 feet high in the rear. When this size they can be loaded on a low sled and moved to any part of the farm. One of these houses with a flock of youngsters can be moved out to the wheat field after the crop is removed. It will surprise you the amount of grain they will pick up on the field that would otherwise go to waste. The same is true of corn, oats and buckwheat fields. By the way, too, there is no better place to raise up a flock of youngsters than to take them out to the corn field. The corn produces shade and they have free range, which they so much need to make bone and muscle.

As the young stock nears maturity the cockerels and pullets should be separated, as they make better growth if kept separate. The culls should be put by themselves and fattened for market, so as to give the pullets and breeding cockerels more room. The stock that you intend to use for breeding in the spring should not be kept with the laying stock, as it is a great mistake to crowd for winter eggs stock that will be used as breeders in the spring. If you have some good surplus cockerels you should sell them for breeding purposes, which you can easily do by advertising them in your farm or county paper. You can not be too particular about the kind of stock you save for your breeding pen next spring. They should not only be good in standard requirements, but should be the picture of health and vigor. Avoid any narrow, flat breasted, long headed, pinched tailed birds in the breeding pen. The shanks, too, should have a healthy color and the birds should be strong and healthy in every way. The fowls kept for producing winter eggs should be either early hatched pullets that have been kept growing right along to maturity, or else they should be yearling hens that were moulted out early in September or last of August. We would prefer the well developed pullets every time and more so among the heavier breeds.

Now, don't think that every pullet you have is good enough to keep for eggs. Many people seem to think that one hen will lay just as many eggs as another and pay no attention to the selection of their layers. This is one of the greatest mistakes that is being made and it is absolutely necessary to cull closely even the laying stock. Of course, it is true that we can not tell that every hen will lay by looking at her, but there are always some pullets raised each year that are not fit to keep even for layers. Anything with a crooked back or tail, or a pullet with a long snaking head, or one with a very coarse, masculine head, should be killed for market. Diseased or sickly pullets should also be disposed of. There are some things that will not hurt a fowl for the laying pen. Off-colored eyes, earlobes or an off-colored feather will not hurt the bird for the

laying pen, but would disqualify it for the breeding pen. While it is not possible to select layers by any set rule, I believe that here are a few things that we should look for. I like a hen or pullet to have a nice, neat head, with a medium sized comb. She should have rather a long body and also deep from back to thigh. Must be full in breast, with good legs set wide apart. Should also be wide at saddle, with well spread tail. I like to see them good eaters, as the pullet that is always busy, with a keen appetite, is the one that lays the eggs.

Now, for the average farmer I believe it a good plan to sell half of his yearling hens each year and replace them with pullets, always keeping his best. By so doing he can keep up his flock with young birds and not have a lot of two or three-year-old hens that will not pay their keep.

We have been telling how to select the layers, now how shall we feed them? First, I want to say that I don't think it a very good plan to house pullets and hens in the same house and feed them the same for egg production. Better results can be obtained by having the hens and pullets separate, as hens lay on fat more readily than pullets. Therefore, what would be a good ration for your pullets would not do for your hens. You should have plenty of room for your layers, as this is very essential. About four to five square feet to each bird is about right, depending some on the breed. The scratching floor should be well covered with clean wheat straw. Into this I would throw all scratch feed, so they will have to work for it. You must keep them busy, as a lot of idle birds are not heavy layers. For a scratch food I think that equal parts by measure of wheat, cracked corn and buckwheat is good. Some sunflower seed, kaffir corn or cracked peas can be added if you have them, but good results can be had without them. This should be fed about daylight in the morning and about four o'clock in the evening. I think two grain feeds enough a day, unless a few handfuls are scattered in the litter at noon to start them scratching again. I can not tell you how much of this scratch food you should feed, as you should be able to tell how much feed your birds require whenever you step in the pen. As a rule a liberal handful to each bird will be found about right. In very severe weather you can feed more corn, possibly feed all corn for the night feed if it is very cold. In addition to this grain feed I would keep before the birds all the time a dry mash made up of the following: 200 pounds bran, 100 pounds middlings, 100 pounds cornmeal, 100 pounds glutenmeal, 100 pounds beef scraps. If you desire to force them heavy you can add 50 pounds oil meal to the above. This mixture should be thoroughly mixed and should be fed from hoppers, allowing the birds to eat all they want of it. Grit, oyster shells and charcoal should be kept before the fowls in small hoppers where they can have free access to them. It is difficult to get hoppers for the dry mash that will keep the birds from throwing the feed out with their beaks. There are many advertised that claim to keep them from doing this, but we find they do not all fulfill the claims. I recommend the Boston Dry Food Hopper, sold by the Cypher's Incubator Co., as I have reason to believe them one of the best dry food hoppers made. Another very important thing for the laying hens is plenty of fresh water. It should not be hot, neither ice cold. Spring is the natural laying season for the hen. She then gets fresh water from the springs and brooks as nature made them. We must make conditions as near like spring as possible if

we are to be successful. Don't fail to supply those hens with water. The eggs they lay are largely made up of water, so it is very important.

Green food is another very important and necessary feed for winter eggs. Sprouted oats are one of the very best of green feeds. Anyone can sprout them by placing them in a box in your cellar about 2 inches thick. Sprinkle daily with warm water. They will sprout in about a week or ten days and should be fed when about two inches long, before they start to joint. Apples, potatoes, carrots, turnips, beets and mangels are excellent, as is cabbage. Feed lots of green food, as it is a natural food and a great egg producer. Keep close watch upon your birds. You must spend considerable time with them if you are to get the best possible results. Keep them tame as possible as wild birds will not do their best for you. It is not necessary to have any male birds with your laying stock. They will do better without one. Infertile eggs keep much better than fertile eggs and then it is useless to board male birds that you do not need. Don't be afraid to feed your layers plenty. Of course it is not good to overfeed, but there are ten poultrymen that underfeed to one that overfeeds. Every successful egg man that I know is a liberal feeder.

Just before I close I want to speak about mating the breeding pen. It is not a child's work to properly mate a pen of fowls successfully for breeding purposes. You should mate for a purpose and not go at it blindly. It is more than simply "penning up a few hens and a rooster." You should mate to overcome defects in your birds. If your male bird is a little off in shape you should mate with him females that are extra strong in this section. If your females are too light in color of eyes be certain that your male is very strong in eye color. If your male is not as good color as you would like have his mates strong in color and so on down the line. Mate for improvement. Improvement is what we are after. If you don't raise any better birds next year than you did last you will be just where you started a year ago. Keep advancing a step. Make your poultry pay as it surely will if given a chance. Treat it as you would any other business and see the results. There is no better way for the farmer or his wife to add a few hundred a year to their income than by keeping a good flock of pure-bred poultry—not mongrels.

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The Ideal Combination

By LYNN C. TOWNSEND.

The ideal combination for the average poultryman is that of the poultry and fruit industry. With proper care, one acre devoted to fruit and poultry will bring in more returns than two acres given over to any other crop. This is not theory, but is an established fact, as has been proven by many hundreds of successful poultrymen scattered throughout the country.

The advantages of this combination can be readily seen. The fruit trees will provide shade for both old and young stock, and at the same time will in a few years bring in a goodly sum of money. In fact, many of our largest poultry plants are run solely from the profits derived from the sale of fruit, leaving the poultry receipts clear profit. In the following paragraphs I will endeavor to give you the best varieties and methods for planting same, as practiced on my own fruit and poultry farm.

The best fruits for the poultry yard are cherries, plums, peaches, pears and quinces. These mature comparatively early and there is always a ready sale for the fruit. We will consider the cher-

sixteen feet apart each way. The best varieties for ordinary use are Bradshaw, Lombard and Shipper's Pride. The average plums are ready for market about the last of August.

I have never advised the heavy planting of peaches, as a severe winter will often prove disastrous. However, a dozen trees in a poultry yard will prove a welcome addition. The peach tree requires a moderately rich soil, warm sandy loam is preferable. Extremely late peaches do not have a chance to mature, so therefore I have selected varieties that bear in August and September. I have found these varieties to be the best: Alexander, Carmen, Crawford's Early, Crawford's Late, Crosby and Elberta. Peach trees should be planted from sixteen to eighteen feet apart.

Pears are a very profitable crop if handled properly. The trees should be pruned carefully and the soil kept loose around them. Pear trees should be planted 20 feet apart each way. Pear trees do not come into bearing until late, but it will pay you to plant them if you are in the business for

eties named above are sold by our leading nurserymen and can usually be purchased at reasonable prices.

Grapes can be successfully grown along the outside of the fences, but care must be taken to keep them well trimmed. Raspberries and currants can be grown successfully in the brooder yard, but unless the large chickens are turned out at the time of ripening, they will help themselves plentifully.

Taken all in all, fruit and poultry make a combination that is hard to beat. What fruit falls to the ground is not wasted, but comes back to you in the form of eggs. Let me urge all that possibly can to plant fruit trees in the poultry yard, if not more than half a dozen.

Ducks Thrive on Meat

Two eminent members of the French Academy of Sciences have just hit the theories of the vegetarians a hard blow. M. Mangnan has spent many years in studying the influence of different kinds of food upon the different organs of the human body, consequently he has been much interested in the theories of the vegetarians and determined to put these to a very practical test. The result of this test has just been reported to the academy through Edmond Perrier.

M. Mangnan selected ducks as his subjects. He took the ducklings as soon as they were hatched and segregated them into groups. One group he fed exclusively on river fish, another group received nothing but grubs and the larvae of insects, a third group was kept on a generous vegetarian diet, consisting of bread, Indian meal, cabbage, nuts, anything purely vegetable that the birds could be induced to eat. The fourth group received a meal of butcher's meat every day and was allowed to eat other things besides.

M. Mangnan weighed his ducks once a week and kept a careful record of their variations. He established a perfect curve of each group of birds, showing every change of weight from beginning to end of the test.

Ten weeks after they were hatched the meat eating ducks had attained an average weight of 53 ounces, the grub-eating of 39 ounces, the fish-eating of

32 ounces, and the vegetarian ducks of only 21 ounces.

At the end of fourteen weeks the meat-eating ducks were full-grown adults, weighing on the average 4½ pounds. It took the ducks of the other groups from five to six months to attain this size, the vegetarians being the slowest of all.

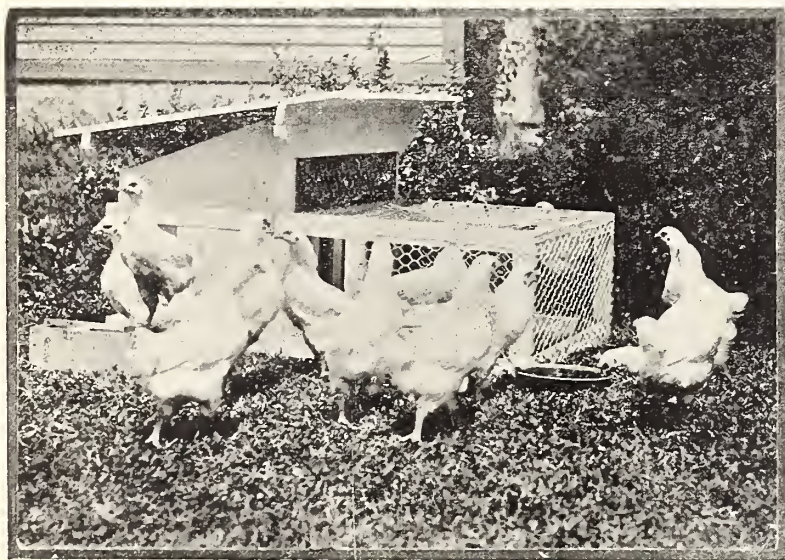
From which M. Perrier and M. Mangnan draw the deduction that a varied diet, containing at least a certain amount of meat, is physiologically best for man as well as for duck.

Turkey Growers' Troubles

From close observation of the troubles which turkey growers have, it appears that most of the trouble lies in inbreeding. If you want to make a success of raising turkeys, you must not inbreed.

Another thing taught by experience is that it is best to keep old turkeys as long as they lay well, as their eggs hatch much better, and the young ones are much stronger and grow faster than if you keep young hens for breeding.

When you get a gobble that you like, keep him as long as possible. If you want more hens, instead of keeping young ones, exchange with some one else, or buy what you want from some one who has good and healthy birds.—N. Y. Farmer.



A Fine Colony of Youngsters

ries first, as I think that, without exception, they are one of the best fruits than can be planted in the poultry run. The cherry thrives best on a dry, sandy soil, but will do well in almost any situation, except a wet one. Ordinary well grown trees produce from five bushels per tree upwards; the fruit brings on an average from two to three dollars per bushel. The trees should be planted from 16 to 18 feet apart. The cherry tree does not require much pruning and never requires spraying. I have found the best varieties to be Black Tartarian, Napoleon Bigarreau, Early Richmond and Large Montmorency.

The plum does best in heavy loam, but will do well on a gravelly loam, especially if there is some clay in the soil. For best flavor they should be left on the tree until ripe, but for shipping to market they should be gathered a few days before ripening. They can then be shipped long distances and arrive in good condition. Plums should be pruned sufficiently to prevent a straggling growth, and to keep the head from being too crowded. The standard distance for planting plums is

money as most of us are. I have found the following varieties to be the most profitable: Bartlett, Wilder, Beurre Rose, Seckel, Sheldon and Kieffer.

Quinces should be planted ten to twelve feet apart. The best varieties of quinces for commercial use are Champion and Rea's Mammoth.

Apples are considered to be the most profitable fruit to grow, but the fact that six to eight years must elapse before a newly planted orchard begins to bear, deters many from planting them. I would advise anyone that had the land to set out an orchard covering at least two acres. You will not need over one hundred trees and these can be purchased from any reliable nursery at a cost not exceeding forty dollars. There are so many varieties that thrive in different sections that I would advise you to write to your State agricultural school, asking for a list of trees adapted to your locality.

Practically all of the trees named above can be planted either in October and November or in April and May. I prefer spring planting, as the trees then have a better chance to get firmly rooted before winter. All of the vari-

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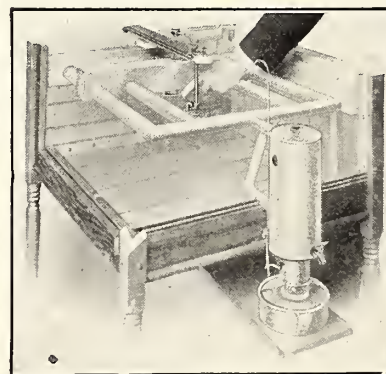
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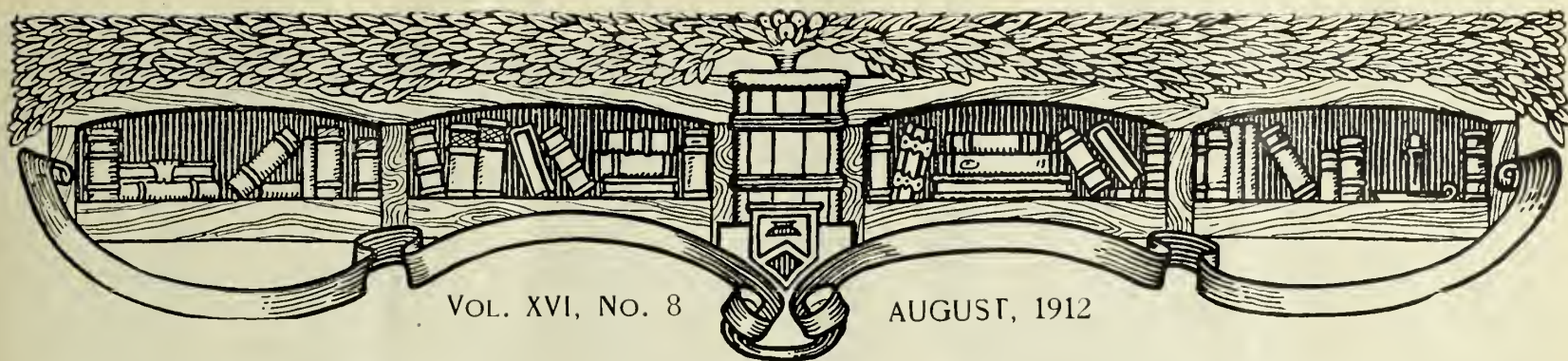
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Box F

Mercer, Pa.



Editorial Comment

As to the breed or variety that is most profitable to keep, that depends entirely upon the purpose for which you keep the poultry. If you contemplate having the largest number of eggs to market from a given number of hens without any consideration whatever of other qualities, select some one of the Mediterranean varieties that belong to what is known as the egg producing family. They are so classed because it has been partly demonstrated that the Mediterranean breeds and varieties are able to produce the largest number of eggs within a given time with the least amount of expense of any of the breeds. There is a reason for this. The Mediterranean breeds are known as the non-sitting breeds. They do not waste any of their time in being broody. They are active, nervous and have been bred along the lines of a large egg production and for nothing else. For these reasons the Leghorn family, as they are usually known, also the Minorcas, Andalusians and Anconas are known as egg producing breeds. They are not considered so good for market poultry. In fact, they are credited as the poorest of market poultry. At the same time it is quite possible and entirely within the limits of reason to have them in good condition for market. We have seen some Leghorns that had been nicely fattened and perfectly dressed (dry picked) for market in such shape as to bring the highest prices in the best retail meat-markets. We have seen other Leghorns sent to market that scarcely had any value. If the Leghorns are fed and fattened as they should be before they are sent to market, they would make a one hundred per cent better appearance than will the Leghorn in its natural condition, as usually found when kept for laying eggs.

If you try to fool yourself you are in a bad state of inefficiency.

Pleasure, real downright pleasure, comes only to those who do not seek it.

Madness, like meanness, is a true sign of a disorganized brain.

If it is your purpose to have both eggs and market poultry select some one of the American breeds. The difference in egg production between the Plymouth Rocks and the Wyandottes and the Mediterranean families will not exceed an average of twenty to twenty-five eggs between them in a year. In some cases where they have been very carefully handled for egg production alone the American breeds have done almost, if not quite, as well as the Leghorns, but on an average in the hands of the average person who gives them the

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average care that poultry usually receives, the American breeds will not do so well at egg producing as will the Leghorn families. At the same time any one of the American breeds is worth double the value as market poultry when it comes to selling as such. The difference in the cost of sustaining and maintaining the American breeds as against the Leghorns in food supply goes to support the large carcass of the American breeds to grow them into the large size. As a grain ration for egg production the Leghorns will eat fully as much as will any of the American breed, but to sustain them and keep them growing and to have them fat as you usually find them, adds somewhat to the expense over the egg ration of sustaining the egg producers alone.

M. E. Pennington, poultry expert of the Department of Agriculture, says: "It is a conservative estimate that more than \$45,000,000 is lost in the egg-producing sections annually because of improper handling." It seems almost incredible to believe, yet it seems to be an established fact, and the sooner our experts begin telling us how to save some of this awful waste, the sooner we will be in a position to retire. See the article elsewhere in this number and profit thereby.

Keeping off the grass is like inviting starvation to some things we know.

Being smart is one thing, but being a smarty is another.

These dog days are not intended as a holiday time with the poultry yard. Each day in August is a trying one on the hens as well as the chicks. Don't neglect your birds for an instant, and be "on the job" all the time. Each and every one of your birds needs the best of care at this season of the year, and the more care you give them at the present time, the greater will be your reward in the future. Provide ample shade, fresh water and wholesome food during the day, and see that they are well protected from chill at night. Use a little common sense in your methods and maybe you will be the gainer thereby.

More than half of the worry in this grand old world of ours is simply imaginary.

If it isn't possible to make the hen sit, by all means accommodate her by having her to set.

If you know who your friends are you need have no fear of your enemies.

For the heavier fowls or meat producers we have the Asiatic family—Brahmas, Cochins and Langshans, also the Dorkings. You may select from these as it best pleases your fancy, and it is quite possible to have Asiatics produce from 125 to even a greater egg production in a year if they are properly handled and cared for as egg producers. We believe that it is claimed that Brahmas have laid over 200 eggs in a year, and we believe it is quite possible for them to do this if they are handled continually along the lines of the greatest egg production, but as handled by the average person they have a tendency to become much too fat, and while it counts against them as egg producers it makes them excellent table poultry.



Can a Living Be Made With Poultry?

It All Depends Upon the Man, the Stock, the Facilities and the Care

By MICHAEL K. BOYER

WHY should it be doubted that a living can be made with such staple articles as poultry and eggs? Are any of our food stuffs in greater demand? Surely, when all conditions are equal—the Man, the Stock, the Facilities and the Care—a plain, honest living can be guaranteed. It calls for a careful, painstaking man, who is not afraid to work, is not easily discouraged, who has grit and perseverance, who takes pleasure in his occupation.

Naturally, the beginner is inexperienced. He knows little, practically nothing, about the business. For that reason he should begin on a small scale and gradually enlarge his plant as experience and facilities will warrant. Such farms, as a rule, are successful. The largest poultry plants in the country owe their present standing to small beginnings. Not even an expert will venture a big start—even he has a great deal to learn in starting a plant, as conditions are not always the same one place as in another.

Some folks "take to it" because it appeals to them as light work; others have been "figuring" and can plainly see immense profits, no risks and comparative ease. Still others are driven from their desks and counters, owing to poor health, and are compelled to seek outdoor employment. To such poultry culture at once suggests itself. Then, again, there are men who have made a failure at everything they ever undertook, and hope to find their fortune in raising poultry.

The majority of such fail. They are no more adapted to the work than is the farmer for the professions. We are firm in the belief that successful poultrymen, like successful poets, are born and not made.

Another class that enters the ranks are men without capital. The man with capital and no experience has more chance than the man with experience and no capital, for the former can hire an expert to carry out his plans. The best physician in the world is powerless without his medicines.

It is a good thing that all who enter the poultry world are not successful. If poultry farming was such an easy affair that all who engaged in it would reap a harvest, how long would it be before



A Bird of Quality

there would be a glut in the markets? Every failure seems to strengthen the cause of those who are successful.

What stock does the beginner choose? Does he let his fancy select the breed, or does he adopt the variety that furnishes him what the market demands?

A man who stocks an egg farm in New England with white egg layers is about as foolish as the man who uses brown egg layers for table eggs in New York. The market must be studied and catered to. And what is true of stock for eggs is equally true of stock for table poultry.

The American poultryman has a long list of varieties from which he may select. He can secure almost any color his fancy might wish, and still gain the object his market calls for. For instance, if he chooses Wyandottes for broiler raising, he has the White, the Black, the Silver, the Buff or the Golden—select whatever color he desires, and still be able to produce good broilers.

Therefore, it is imperative that there be a proper selection of the class, and the color can be one of personal liking.

Having chosen the breed, the next step is to keep

on improving it. Carelessness will soon cut down the good qualities of any breed, of which more will be said later on.

What is meant by improving the breed is not so much as to standard qualifications as it is to hardiness and productiveness. We want healthy stock that will give us a generous supply of good eggs and attractive carcasses. In other words, it is the utility that we must improve first, and the adornment can be gradually added. It is gratifying to note that the poultry fanciers of today are more careful in this utility qualification than they were twenty years ago. When about that time we advocated cross-bred poultry in preference to pure-breds, we had the grand army of fanciers after us with "a big stick." But the hardiness of the cross-bred was not only better than that of the pure-bred, but the former gave us more eggs and better carcasses. For our efforts in that line we were dubbed the champion of the mongrel fowl. It was not a fair criticism, but we lived through it and today see the fruits of our former efforts. Even the makers of our American Standard of Perfection each revision lean more to the practical and less to the strict letter of the law of the fancy. Our present-day poultrymen deserve a great deal of credit for having brought the breeds to the practical condition that they have, and so well have they succeeded that we no longer advocate cross-breds, neither do we tolerate them in our yards.

There are many ways for improving our fowls. We increase the per cent of winter laying by hatching eggs only from our best winter layers; we increase the size and color of our eggs by using only the most desirable eggs for hatching; we improve the carcasses of our stock by breeding only from our ideal birds in that capacity. We are aided in our work of improvement by the use of the trap nest, which has been a Godsend to practical poultry culture in America.

By a careful watching of the condition of our stock we improve the health and vigor of each generation. By at once discarding birds from our breeding pens that show a weakness in any particular, the future generations do not inherit weak constitutions. We must build up and improve generation after generation.

What are the facilities? Good houses in par-

tiular. What is meant by good houses? They are homes that are comfortably built—erected in such a way that they are warm in winter and cool in summer. They must be roomy and convenient. They must afford good ventilation without causing drafts.

Going back twenty years we remember the agitation in the poultry press about the proper methods for ventilation. Ventilators in the roof, holes on the east and west sides near the roof, wooden chimneys or, rather, regular air shafts, and all sorts of contrivances were advocated, and with what results? There were fifty cases of roup reported to one that is reported now. The stock were continually having colds, and there seemed to be no end to troubles. But then came a change—the open-front scratching shed-house became popular, and from that day on to this we read no more about the “proper way to ventilate a poultry house.”

The matter of runs, too, must be carefully considered. For good results we do not favor free range for laying or breeding stock. Experiments have proved that generous size runs will give better results than absolute freedom. But we believe in having alternate runs for each flock, and when the fowls are occupying the one run, sow the other to rye, oats or wheat, which will not only disinfect the soil but will furnish green food as well.

Now comes the care, and upon this subject a volume could be written. Good care does not mean “killing with kindness.”

Good care means the right kind of treatment given at the proper time. Regularity above all things must be rigidly enforced. It is remarkable how quickly fowls recognize the hour for feeding. They will be on the lookout for the attendant at the appointed hour, and evidence their nervousness by pacing up and down the run along the fence line. They expect him every minute, and every minute's delay excites them, and they eventually become crabbed, pick at each other, and show countless actions of anxiety. These delays are detrimental to their welfare. Have appointed hours for feeding, and see that the order is promptly obeyed.

The quality of the food given comes under the head of care. To keep the fowls in good health and profit, it is important that we closely study the effects of feed. We are opposed to “all corn” diets, even in winter, but believe that a fowl should have a certain per cent of corn in its daily bill of fare. All heating foods should be cut down in quantity in the summer ration, and increased in the winter feeding. Fowls love a variety of food and thrive better on it than they do on a single article of grain. In fact, to have a variety, like, say, equal parts of wheat and corn, a mash of ground grains, meat scraps, green food, charcoal, oyster shell and grit, with plenty of fresh water, will prevent much sickness and keep the fowls in profit.

Care must also be taken in the amount of food given. It is different to set down a rule to be governed by, for appetites change, and fowls very easily “get off their feed.” Ordinarily a large iron spoonful of mash is sufficient soft food for every two fowls in the pen, and at night a handful of whole grain for every head of stock will be about right. But when it is seen that they do not greedily pick up the food it is advisable to cut down the allowance a little at the next meal. Under no consideration allow food to lie around and never throw soft food on the ground, always feeding it in troughs.

Be sure that the food is pure. Damaged or musty grain, or sour mash, will cause bowel troubles and other disturbances.

Green food should be provided each day—grass or other tender greens in summer, and roots like turnips, beets, potatoes, etc., chopped up fine and fed raw, or scalded, or cooked cut clover hay or alfalfa during winter.

Meat in some form should be given daily during the winter, and also in summer when the fowls are confined to runs where insects or worms can not be had.

Charcoal, grit and cracked oyster shell should be continually within reach of the fowls so they can help themselves at will. Never mix any of these ingredients in the mash. The hens will know best when they need it and the quantity they should consume.

Fresh water is very important. Especially during laying season, fowls consume considerable water. It is necessary in the manufacture of eggs and to deprive them of it will mean a loss in the egg crop. Never allow filthy or stagnant water to stand around, for such water will breed sickness.

Keep the premises clean. Every day scrape up the droppings of the night before, keep down the cobwebs, and do not allow scum to collect in the drinking vessels. Keep the nests clean, and each week use plenty of kerosene on the roosts and in the nest boxes to keep down vermin. Every spring and fall give the interior of each house a good coating of whitewash.

Never expose the fowls to inclement weather—rainstorms, snows, cold, high winds will work damage.

Have the runs partially shaded so that during the hot suns of summer the hens can find a shady nook under which to creep and be comfortable.

We could go on enumerating until we filled this issue, there being so many little matters to look after. It is important that all the details be promptly taken in hand. It is the little leak that often sinks the ship.

Good economy must be practiced, but that does not mean buying “cheap” food, nor does it mean having “cheap” stock. In these days of high-priced feed, we are apt to flinch when the bills come around. It is unfortunate that prices are so high, but better pay a high rate for a superior article than a low rate for stuff that is unfit for food.

So it is with stock. No poultry farm was ever

established by using mongrel stock. The foundation must be laid with stock that has been scientifically bred for utility. The common or mongrel hen is a composite of all kinds of blood. She may have a streak of profit in her veins, but the chances are she is bad or indifferent. In all the reports published about phenomenal laying, not one record has ever been given from a dunghill hen.

Looking out of the office window, the writer can see two backyard poultry plants that started out originally with White Wyandottes. One of them could at one time boast of as fine specimens of that variety as could be found on almost any place. But one day the fancy led to Plymouth Rocks and then to Rhode Island Reds, and gradually they all became mixed, and today both those plants are models for mongrelism, and the egg crop is but half what it formerly was.

Beginners very often, possibly from a point of economy, begin with mongrel stock, hoping that after rightly started these mongrels will be supplanted with pure-bred stock. But, as a rule, when a start is made with dunghills, it will always be dunghills. Just why it happens so we never could understand, but, nevertheless, it is true.

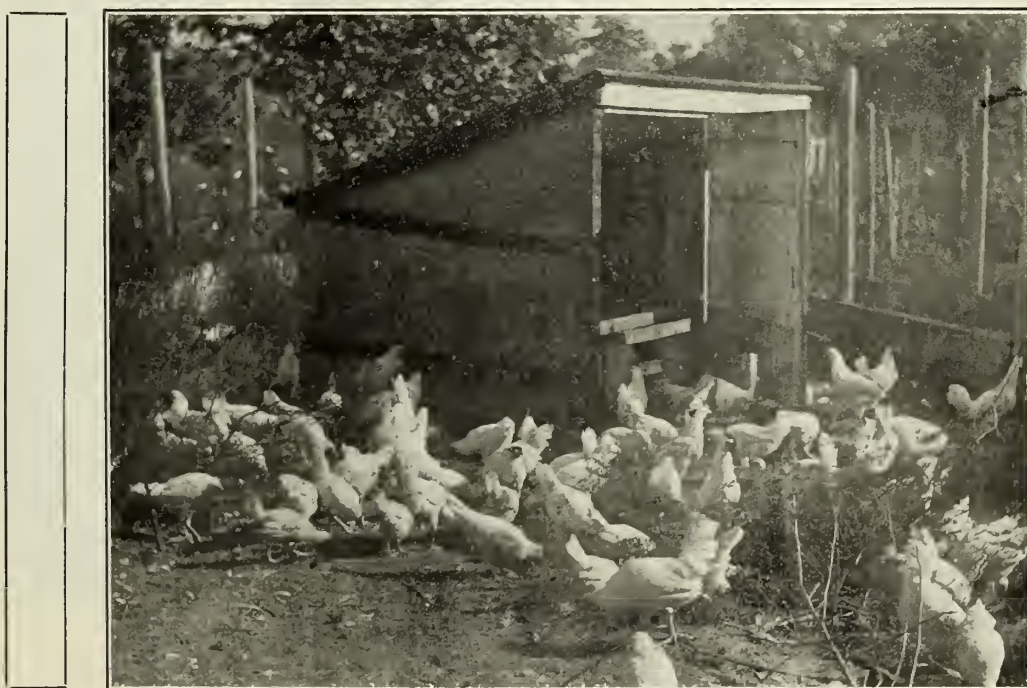
Beginners, too, in starting are apt to love too many varieties. They do not like to settle down on a single breed, and the result is they have a half dozen or more breeds on their list. It is far better to select one good variety and center all the attention on that, and in this way get all the good out of it.

* * *

The farm is started. The stock and the facilities are right. The man in charge is a painstaking, industrious, honest worker. The only question left to be solved is how to make the living. Of what good will a lot of eggs or a lot of poultry be if it can not be sold at profitable prices—and just how can the cream of the trade be reached?

The open market will at almost any time buy poultry and eggs, but the open market does not always pay the best of prices. What then is the best method for disposing of the product?

Unquestionably, the best trade is a retail one. A house-to-house custom is always more satisfactory than shipping to a wholesale market. Generally, beginners in figuring up the possibilities



The Money Making Combination



A Fine Flock

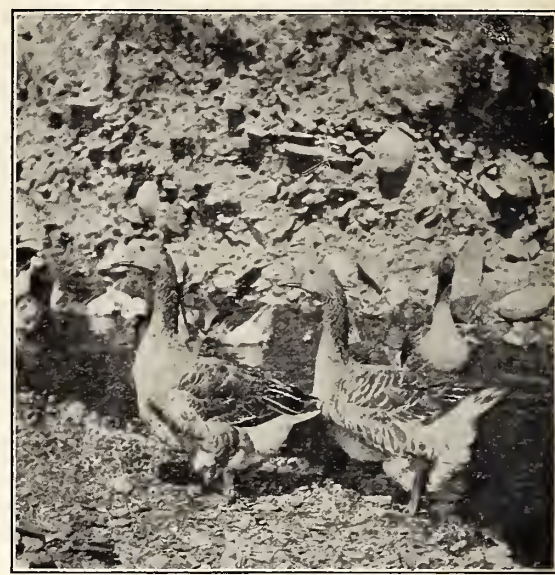
hanker after a hotel custom. Sooner or later they drop the idea. Hotels do not pay the best of prices—they want to purchase at wholesale figures. Be-

sides getting down the price, they buy only in limited lots.

A much better plan is one adopted by a farmer, an acquaintance of the writer, who every Wednesday and Saturday makes deliveries to private customers, and at the same time takes orders for future delivery. He began his trade by first sending out by mail a neat circular on which he told of his choice poultry and strictly fresh eggs. He gave his methods, pointing out how only the purest of grains and meat are given his stock, and how clean the premises are kept. He guaranteed every egg to be not over three days old, and every carcass young and healthy before killed.

These circulars at first brought but a few customers, but every few days another person would write asking the team to call at the house, and then the news spread to the neighbors, and today that farm has a patronage that any poultryman might well envy. This circular announced a few cents advance in price of eggs over the store price, which the customer willingly paid, knowing the condition of the goods. Such a trade carefully handled will not be lost, but, instead, will increase year after year.

In these days of strong competition, only the strong succeed, and no strength is as great as that which comes from superior goods and from a courteous manner in being served. The poultry



Other Money Makers

business calls for business men. No slipshod ways will ever make a poultry farm pay—nor anything else.



Pigeons For Profit

By M. E. HOAG

IHAVE noted in back numbers of The Feather a number of articles on the breeding of the Homing Pigeon for profit, and agree with a few of the writers who claim that a number of the so-called articles are simply well-written ads for some of the breeders who would lead the public to believe that it is all profit and no loss, and that any one can make a big thing out of it.

My experience has not been very extensive, but I have learned in the few years that I have given to the subject that there are many ups and downs to the business. I have never bred on a large scale as compared with some, but devoted my efforts more to quality than quantity, being interested more in working Homers than in straight squab breeding.

My first birds were secured from a friend in Old Mexico, and on my way home I secured more of a well-recommended breeder in San Antonio, Texas. I then purchased a few pairs from a breeder in Colorado, and these constituted my breeding stock. The first year the birds more than paid for their feed, but the margin of profit was small. The next year gave better returns, and after culling out all small and poorly marked specimens I had a good bunch of birds to breed from. I had my old birds banded, and kept a band record



A Pair of Breeders

of all young ones hatched, so that I could tell at a moment's notice just what pair of breeders such and such a young one was from. The next

spring brought us trials, such as the trouble of mating up the birds for the season and culling out the extra cocks. At first I thought nearly all the birds were cocks, for they would all waltz and fight, but I soon learned that the note of the hen was a little less on the bass than that of the cock. This gave very little help, however, for if I took out a pair and mated them they were broken up as soon as they were again placed with the others; so I finally caught all of them and shut them in a pen, then took out a pair and placed them in the mating box; as soon as they were mated I turned them loose in the breeding pen, where they went to work with no more trouble. In this way I soon had all the birds mated, and found that I really had some extra hens instead of extra cocks as I had at first thought.

One pair of early-hatched youngsters mated late in the fall and selected a hole under the roof of the loft for their nest, and even after being shut up all winter they went back there the first time I let them out for a fly in the spring and made so much trouble over it that I finally had to let them have their own way about it. Rather aggravating, but it surely spoke well for the homing instinct.

My first birds were rather small, but by careful selection I now have birds that are of good size; and the squabs will range from seven to eight and

TIMELY TOPICS

By PLUMMER McCULLOUGH.

Fall fairs will start in earnest this month, and it is up to the poultrymen to take in as many as they can. You can just talk as you please, there is a whole lot of good in fall fairs. I meet people at the fair that I hardly ever see between fairs. Especially is this true of poultry fanciers. Every year I find the same old crowd with a few new ones in the poultry building. In fact, the poultry building to me is the most interesting place in the fair grounds. It is there that I go first and there that I leave last.

The fall fair is also a good place to buy and sell stock. If you are wanting to buy a cockerel, trio or pen you can most always find them at the fall fair, and if you have stock to sell you can quite often find a buyer at the fall fair. Then the fall fair is a splendid place to exhibit stock, both for amateur and professional. You can learn more by showing at one fair than you can by reading columns. In fact, you learn many things at a fair that you will never learn from print. Remember this, and don't fail to make the very best of the fair season.

Miller Purvis, who edits Poultry (which, by the way, is one of the most interesting poultry papers published on the globe), has a splendid editorial in a late number of Poultry on "Strive for Improvement." Mr. Purvis says, in part:

"The man who is trying to improve an old variety or perfect a new one must see it in its artistic aspect, in order to do his work with pleasure and at the same time produce the greatest effect. Before the fancier of today lies an illimitable opportunity for progress. Not so much in originating new breeds, we take it, for the desire for new breeds is rapidly abating, but in the improvement of breeds and varieties now recognized by the A. P. A. there is abundant opportunity for improvement all along the line."

It is very true that every fancier can find plenty to do in improving the breeds we now have, instead of always trying to dig up a new variety that will "take well" for the first year or two with the poor people of America.

It is quite noticeable that many of the new varieties do not "take" so well after they have been tested as they do before people know them. It would be much better if breeders and fanciers would spend their money and time on some of the old reliable Hamburgs, Red Caps, Dominiques, Javas, Spanish, Brahmas, Langshans and dozens of others. These varieties will stand for improvement and they will pay the men who undertake the work of improving them. As Purvis says, "Strive for Improvement." Improvement is what you are after, and it is what you must have if you are to be very successful. If you are to beat your fellow fancier in the show room you must not only have as good stock as he, but you must have better stock than he has. In order to do this you must strive for improvement in every possible way.

It is really surprising to see how many of the city people are buying and wanting to buy farms. Many of them are being "soaked" good and proper by the real estate agents, and a note of warning here may not be out of place. It is quite hard to get a place that will

suit you in every way. In fact, you cannot do it. But many of these city people are buying farms from real estate agents that they have no knowledge of at all. This is a big mistake. Find out all you can about any farm before you buy. Don't take the agent's word for everything. Find out for yourself whether the farm has good water, whether it will raise good crops if well cared for, whether or not it is handy to a good market, whether or not it is in a good neighborhood, and many other things. Find these out for yourself. Don't go at it blind, as many are doing. You should also find out what size farm you require.

I do not have a farm of my own, I am sorry to say, but I hope to have some day. However, I rented a small place of nine acres last May, and while it was not nearly as large a place as I wanted, it will have to do till I can get a larger one. One of the Feather readers in writing to me some time ago about farms, said, "If I were you I would have a farm of my own if it was only two acres." Now, this good friend meant all right, but I think he was entirely wrong in his idea about the proper sized farm. Of course two acres beside some good thriving city might do, but not as a rule. If I had only two acres I would not be able to raise feed for a cow or a horse, or hardly any feed at all. If I kept any stock I would have to buy all feed for them, and I know by experience that such work is not very profitable at the present price of feed. Of course it depends on what line of work you intend to follow, but for myself I would prefer a farm of from fifty to seventy-five acres, with land having a southeastern slope; would want running water on farm and plenty of good pasture land. On a farm of this size a man could keep a team, four or five good cows and raise enough of grain for his poultry besides. A farm of this size is much better than a real small one, as the small farm gives you no chance to make much by staying at home, and neither can you work out all the time. In fact, too small a farm is worse than none at all.

Farm life is all right, and I would prefer it above all others, but, frankly speaking, it is no snap. Not nearly so easy and make-money-easy job as some city people seem to think. A good farmer has to have some hustle in him; he puts in long hours, works hard and his pay comes very irregular and sometimes not at all. We have quite a number of city people in this vicinity who have come out and bought farms, and some of them have got good and sick of farm life and are anxious to sell out. However, it is easier to buy than sell, especially when you pay twice what a farm is worth, as some of the city people are doing at this time.

A much better plan for city people would be to rent a farm for one or two years, till they see how they like it. If they wanted to buy a farm after renting for two or three years it would be a much safer undertaking than to do so at the beginning.

It is very true that the farm is the ideal place for poultry, but you must not think that all you have to do is to sit under the shade trees and watch the crops grow. If you do you will get left. The farmer is a hard worker, much more so, I believe, than the average city man, and if you come to a farm you must expect work.

Western Poultry Journal writes that olive oil is a splendid remedy for bowel trouble in chicks. A number of their subscribers have tried it with success. The remedy is given as follows: "Moisten commercial chick food with pure olive oil until moist enough to cling together and feed the chicks all they will eat. In extreme cases, where chicks are pasted up behind, remove the paste with a soft cloth and warm water and inject two or three drops of olive oil with a medicine dropper or very small glass syringe." The above is a very simple remedy and should be given a trial by any one that has bowel trouble in either chicks or old stock.

We notice Mr. O. F. Sampson's article on "Those Egg-Laying Contests" in June Feather, and have read same with interest, but I can hardly agree with Mr. Sampson when he says that he believed they would hardly prove of great practical worth.

It is true that they will not determine which is the best laying breed or variety, but no intelligent breeder expects them to do this. There is one thing certain, and that is they arouse a lot of interest in poultry and keep it stirred up the year around, too. A poultry show is not held for the purpose of finding out which is the best variety for exhibition, is it? Of course not. Neither are these contests held for the purpose of finding out the best breed or variety for egg production, although they do give us some mighty interesting facts along this line.

For some reason we have not received our copy of the National Poultry Magazine for the past month, and we miss Mr. C. F. Townsend's spicy articles and answers to correspondents considerably. We like to read from Townsend's pen, and we would have his new book if it was not for the fact that it keeps us digging to buy feed. However, we are in hope of better days.

A prominent breeder of Cochins, E. J. Fish, gives six reasons in a late number of R. P. J. for raising Cochins. One of his reasons is, "Cochins are good layers." How good, Mr. Fish?

A. F. Hunter says, in R. P. J.: "We say it without fear of successful contradiction that if a man has his chicks hatched in April and does not have them laying in October it is his own fault." Gee! I fear some of us are going to be badly at fault this season. Nevertheless, Mr. Hunter's words are usually true. Mr. Hunter, in his splendid article, asks what it is that checks growth, and his answer is, "Lack of room is one—overcrowding in the colony coop is a frequent cause of a check in growth. Sixty to seventy-five chicks are moved out into a colony coop when they are, say, eight weeks old, and there is abundant room then. But those chicks double in size with astonishing rapidity—and first we know the coop is crammed-jammed full. The youngsters pass perspiring nights in that overcrowded condition and come out in the morning bedraggled, discouraged and with a 'life ain't worth living nobow' air. Instead of a restful, refreshing sleep they have been shut up in a sweat box. The simple preventive of this condition is to remove the cockerels whenever they can be distinguished from the pullets, which is when they are about ten or twelve weeks old, with the American varieties. Another check in growth is filthy quarters. Clean quarters and an abundance of good, clean food should always be at hand where the birds can help themselves whenever they like."

In Western Poultry Journal for July

is a report of the Missouri Laying Contest.

A White Rock pullet from Illinois laid 64 eggs in 64 continuous days. This is something wonderful and we are glad indeed that the White Rocks are making so good a showing. All honor to the White Rocks. A pen of Hamburgs from Missouri won the golden egg silver cup for May, this pen of Hamburgs laying 130 eggs during May.

U. R. Fishel, the world-renowned White Rock breeder, has issued a special sale list that should be in the hands of every one of our readers who is desirous of getting bargains in

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

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F. W. Warner, in the Poultry Times, writes: "Really to read and try to do for our poultry what the present-day writers seem to think necessary to properly 'bring them up' becomes a formidable undertaking that would make anyone hesitate to take up poultry breeding and wear them out if they did.

"When one takes into consideration the ten or twenty pens of breeders to be cared for and the even more different lots of little fellows, besides taking a hand at other jobs, as most of fanciers have to do, it seems we should study how little it was necessary to do instead of how much, as most writers seem to encourage.

"The poultryman's advice that I am looking for nowadays is the man that can tell me how little I can do and make 'em live instead of the fellow who is constantly studying up more ways of spending more time on them."

Mr. Warner expresses the opinion of many a poultryman, especially of the smaller breeders. Most all of them, like myself, are not so situated that they can spend a great deal of time with their poultry; they possibly are working for some one else and have only the evenings to themselves. They can not do a thousand things after supper. We know of a lady who raises a hundred or more chicks every year; takes care of that many grown layers and breeders, besides raising quite a flock of ducks. She does not spend a great deal of time with them, although what she does do she does well. Many of our parents and grandparents raised good, healthy chickens that never heard of white diarrhoea and such like. If a person can fill the food hoppers and keep them full I firmly believe that the hopper method of feeding is a great labor saver and just as good or better results follow.

By the way, why is it that we find practically no hen-hatched chicks die with white diarrhoea? There's a reason and it looks very much as if the incubators were quite a bit to blame. The very same thing is true of crippled chicks. Very seldom if ever do we find a crippled chick hatched under a hen, but they are quite numerous with incubators. I think there is still considerable room for improvements on the incubators before we get them to equal the old hen in some particulars, although I'll admit that in some respects they are her superior.

Editor Theo. Hewes don't seem to take much stock in the way the business affairs of the A. P. A. are carried on. In the Inland Poultry Journal he says: "Taking a careful survey of the A. P. A. as it stands today I am willing to concede that the officers of said association have about as much business ability as an empty sardine can. It is very true that an empty sardine can has little business ability, although they do sometimes make quite a stink. Is not the A. P. A. a little like the sardine can in this respect also?"

Lay in a good supply of green food for your poultry for the winter months.

Cut clover, such as you often clip off your lawns, if well cured and stored away in sacks will be greatly relished by your fowls this coming winter. Beets, cabbage, mangels, turnips, small potatoes, are all valuable as a

green food for winter months. You can not have too much of such food.

Let me again assure you that milk—skim milk or buttermilk—is one of the very best foods you can give your fowls. Just try it if you have a good supply of milk and watch results.

The Buttercups are getting many a free ad. in the journals of late by a certain Keystone breeder. If they are as good a fowl as he says it is likely that they will have all other breeds crowded out in a year or two.

A Mrs. Harshberger, in a recent number of Poultry Success, says Indian Runner Ducks were originated by crossing Penguins with wild Mallard Ducks of India. As we understand it the Penguins can live only in very cold climates and none are found in India whatever. How this lady got her "valuable" (?) information I don't know. I do know that if she had said they were a cross between an owl and a peacock I would have taken it just as serious as I have the Penguins cross.

Do the readers of The Feather have a Scotch collie dog on the farm to help with poultry? They are the best farm dog there is today, and if properly trained are good workers and trusty companions for children. If you don't own one you should by all means.

The National Egg-Laying Contest

The Leghorns and smaller breeds do not seem to be affected by the hot weather, and are now making better records and gaining ground faster than the larger breeds and varieties. The hot weather, the moulting season, and 355 broody hens during the month of July cut the egg yield and it will doubtless rapidly decrease from this time on. No pen has yet gotten so far in the lead, but what the rank of the leading pens could be changed in a single month. The indications are that the pen which can continue to lay a reasonable number of eggs through the hot weather is going to be the pen which will win. Neither is the best individual record yet settled by any means. While a White Plymouth Rock hen has laid 208 eggs, yet a White Orpington is only nine eggs behind her, and a number of others are in close pursuit.

A total of 71,280 eggs have been laid in the nine months. The record for July was 8,873 eggs. Only seven pens were able to lay 100 eggs or more during the month. The best individual record is that made by Lady Showyou, White Plymouth Rock hen, No. 717. This hen has not missed a month since she entered the contest, her record for each month being as follows:

November	17	eggs
December	22	"
January	5	"
February	17	"
March	29	"
April	29	"
May	31	"
June	29	"
July	29	"

Total 208 "

She has 92 days yet left in which to complete her year's record. The only month this hen has failed to lay an unusually large number of eggs was in January. We had a snow about January 5 which was nearly two feet deep,

and the temperature went to about 24 below zero. Lady Showyou laid an egg the day following and then quit business until about February 5, taking just a month's lay off. She then began a rather remarkable period of production in the days following this, laying 146 eggs in 151 consecutive days. She is the most industrious hen among the 655 in the contest. She goes immediately from the roost, about daylight, each day into her trap nest. She lays the egg and is released from the nest about 8 o'clock in the morning. She then spends the remainder of the day in eating a large amount of food and drinking lots of water, out of which to manufacture eggs for future days. We can usually tell about when she is going to miss a day. As this time approaches she lays a little later each day, that is, if she is to miss soon, we will not find her in the nest so early as usual. She will go on at 10 o'clock, the next day at 1 o'clock, and the day before she misses we do not find her on the nest until about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. When we find her on as late as this, she then misses the following day, but the next day has laid by 8 o'clock and keeps it up at that hour until time to miss again. She has only missed laying five days in the past five months, and this has been true of her in each case when she missed a day.

Frozen and Dried Eggs

Frozen and dried eggs intended for human consumption are largely used for cooking purposes where inferiority may be concealed, as in baking cakes or making custards, omelets, pies, etc. The traffic in eggs sold for drying and freezing has greatly increased in the past few years. Strictly fresh marketable eggs in the shell command a high price and there is difficulty in meeting the demand for them; but large quantities of questionable eggs, often bought at very low prices, have been broken out for cooking purposes by disreputable firms, being preserved by freezing or drying until ready for use. Some dealers, however, manufacture a satisfactory product by the use of good eggs handled under proper conditions.

There is no objection to drying or freezing good eggs under proper sanitary conditions; in fact, there are some advantages to be gained by preserving eggs in this manner, although the manufacturing processes devised by man, as a rule, do not improve the quality of Nature's work. Conditions of modern life and commerce must, however, be met, and dried eggs or eggs in a frozen condition may be shipped long distances, and require less space for transportation and storage than do eggs in the shell.

As the result of investigations instituted by Secretary Wilson, the United States Department of Agriculture has recently issued two publications that give practical suggestions for correcting some of the existing practices and conditions which are at least partially responsible for the unsatisfactory products now found on the market. These publications are Bulletin 158 and Circular 98, of the Bureau of Chemistry, entitled, respectively, "A Bacteriological Study of Shell, Frozen and Dried Eggs," and "Practical Suggestions for the Preparation of Frozen and Dried Eggs."

Animal Food

Ground meat or green cut bones should be given the breeders, and its careful use will surely prove beneficial to the fowls. It is as beneficial to the breeder as it is to the layer, and will

stimulate the egg production, besides adding strength and vigor to the birds. Animal food of some sort is essential to fowls, and those who are in a position to feed meat or green cut bone will soon note its beneficial effects upon the layers and breeders.

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If you follow the rules of those who have made a success of the business. There is no reason why a hen should not lay in winter, if she is provided with the elements which make the egg. When these are provided she will produce the eggs.

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Contains these elements, when combined with the food, to make the laziest hen lay her share of eggs. It is a great Laying Tonic and conditioner of hens. Those who have tried it would not be without it—and now is your time to prove it. See the testimonials on back cover page of this number of The Feather. Send for our new free booklet, "Calendar of Poultry Keeping, 1912." Agents wanted. Regular size box, 1 1/2 lbs., 25 cents; by mail, 45 cents. Five boxes, by express or freight, \$1.00. Sample size, 1/2 lb., 10 cents; by mail, 15 cents.

The Successful Poultry Remedy Company

WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE POULTRY INDUSTRY

A Study of One of the Most Important Industries; Its Permanence and Value as a Factor in Human Welfare

By GEORGE ENTY

When the farmer asks in a bewildered way what he shall do to increase his waning earnings he is promptly told to raise poultry. The villager whose increasing family taxes his earning powers always beyond his ability to keep it up, is told to go into the poultry business. The widow, orphan children, men past their prime, delicate men and boys and robust girls and women are all advised to try poultry. Hence, it is not strange that there is an ever increasing army of recruits in this business; and this army is composed of men and women owning land, buildings and capital of much value from almost nothing up to hundreds and thousands of dollars. Does it pay them? Will they remain in the work? Can I make it as much a success as those people seem to do? Are a few of the many questions constantly being asked by interested persons. Let us see.

It must be acknowledged at the very outset that many people have lost all their scanty savings in rash ventures in poultry raising. They got some experience, but usually not enough. They got plenty to put them out of fowl and egg raising, but not enough to show them the real reasons for their failure to make money in producing fowl flesh or eggs. These people will tell us and all who will listen to them that there is no money in the business and never can be at present prices; they keep many people from trying to earn something in this manner, but are far from being correct in their views. They are sadly mistaken and the fact that many people all around them are making money should be sufficient proof that there is money in it if the work is rightly managed from start to finish, and just there more than half the trouble lies. Not one person in ten thousand keeps books with poultry, in fact the very manner in which a few or even a few dozen or perhaps a hundred hens are kept precludes the idea of keeping books in anything like a correct manner. No one knows what it costs to produce the grown fowl or the dozen eggs. True, it may be known how many bushels of wheat, corn, etc., are consumed in a given time, but what part of the flock's total food is usually not known, for the fowls glean it themselves from many sources. It costs little or nothing directly, but if the few dozen or hundred hens were multiplied by a hundred or a thousand the percentage of gleaned food would be materially lessened.

We may not know to the penny the cost of production, but we do know whether or not we are gaining or losing, and if the former we can safely enlarge operations with good prospects of still greater returns. To obtain a certain income from the fowls means to slightly more than increase extent of work above the assumed ration.

The demand for fowl flesh and eggs will constantly increase as the country settles up and the price of the larger food animals goes up. And as the cereals of first quality become higher in price the feeding grains will more and more be used to produce eggs and flesh. Those engaged in this production will lead in the large increase in consumption. Within our memory a family of country or village folks rarely thought of using more than ten or twelve fowls in a season on the home table, but many now use that

number in one month, and eggs are used in one form or another every day.

The demand for good stock to start after a time will continue as long as there is a desire to use the products of the flock. It is not necessary that there should be a sucker born each minute to keep up the demand for eggs for hatching from other than common stock, or for the birds that lay those better eggs. It may be necessary to create an artificial value for certain grades of stock that is a fancy valuation above what it costs to produce it in brains and time, but all products that are sold at honest prices will never go begging for buyers. What is meant by honest prices is not so much whether it is so many cents, dimes or dollars or even hundreds of either, as that it represents fairly the cost of producing the article sold. Certainly the very cream of a flock of fowls that one has been working arduously many years to produce should be worth more to one who can use such stock than the chance productions of one not skilled in breeding. It is only when men try to work off the major part of a year's production at high water mark, claiming without any show of either truth or reason that such stuff is just a little better than that of any of their fellow laborers in the same art that the scandal and shame creep in. And it is a most despicable shame and hideous sin for men to prey upon the good faith and simplicity of character

of those with whom they do business. I would rather have it said of any friend of mine that he or she was a great and good fancier, had produced splendid birds, started many a young breeder in the fascinating work of raising good poultry; had helped many a poor widow and orphan boy or girl to get started in a business that was later in life the means of an education, sustenance, hope and life, and after doing all this died poor, than to have to hang my head with shame at the thought of the name because that one had taken the downward, dark path that ignores strict honesty, even though the traveler became very famous and very rich and the light rabble applauded to the echo when the name was mentioned.

It is well known that a true fancier, like the born naturalist, very rarely goes wrong and there is no safer guard against a wasted life than to early in life help a boy or girl to love beautiful pets, and loving them, adore Him who gave them their existence. Generosity and kindness will be cultivated along with a host of other moral traits and tendencies and each one so influenced will help make the old world more fit for a home for those who follow them.

And all who help extend the circulation of the fanciers' magazines and thus help spread and build up the interest in fine poultry, are builders in the greatest temple ever constructed, a people devoted to the good and the beautiful, to truth, love and righteousness.

L. Nye, station agent at Lee, has a flock of White Wyandotte hens that lay eggs with 10-cent pieces in them. Dimes were discovered in four out of six eggs his family had for breakfast one morning. Nye explains it by saying his grain dealer's clerk lost a paper of 10-cent pieces several months ago

and they apparently showed up in the cracked corn he fed the hens.

In some English experiments it was found that hens fed upon mustard during the winter season produced a much larger number of eggs than any stimulant, or those which received capsicum as a stimulant. During the warm months, however, the reverse was true, but taking the year as a whole the results for 6 pullets of Buff Orpingtons in each lot were as follows: Ordinary food, 914 eggs; capsicum as a stimulant, 905 eggs; mustard as a stimulant, 1,023 eggs. It may be that after all that pest of the farmer—wild mustard—may have a place in becoming a source of profit instead of, as it is today, a source of much worry and vexation.—Ex.

There are still poultrymen who imagine they can tell the sex of eggs before they are hatched, or as soon as they are laid. Some assert that long eggs always hatch females, while others say that such eggs invariably hatch males. When it is considered that each hen shapes her eggs according to the condition of her ovaries, and uniformly lays eggs of similar shape, the absurdity of the shape theory becomes apparent.

THE SIMPLICITY SANITARY FIRELESS BROODER

After buying 600 chicks out of brooders of other makes in one season, due to crowding and suffocation, we produced this Scientific-Fireless-Brooder.

SAVE YOUR CHICKS

Use these Life-Saving-Stations, if you raise a few or many chicks.

NEW, ORIGINAL AND ESSENTIAL FEATURES

Brooding chicks separately to prevent crowding and suffocation, preserving body heat and ventilation for entire flock—99% saved over any other brooder. Bottoms drop down for cleaning without removing the chicks from brooder—perfect ventilation—no drafts—body heat preserved—legs detachable for use outdoors, with runs.

A REAL MOTHER HEN

Send 2-cent stamp for catalogue fully describing Simplicity Sanitary Brooder, with photographs showing parts. Harry D. Moore, State Sales Manager, 1829 Baker St., Baltimore, Md.

You May Now Own Lewis Wright's Great "New Book of Poultry" for

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For only 50c down we will ship the newest revised edition of this great poultry book to you. We have never before offered Lewis Wright's book on such easy terms. We know you will want it, but if you don't you may return to us and we will refund your money. You take absolutely no risk.

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The one pre-eminent virtue of Mr. Wright's book is acknowledged to be its intense THOROUGHNESS. Every breed you will find is exhaustively treated—Every question that has ever harassed a poultryman is answered and settled in the most practical and economical way—Every detail of the poultry business is discussed with authority. Examine the work in your own home, on our Special Offer, and judge for yourself how valuable are the chapters on: Poultry Houses and Runs; The Science of Feeding, Practical Management and Feeding of Fowls; The Egg and the Sitting Hen; Incubators; Rearing and Care of Chickens; Poultry for the Table; Poultry Farming; Exhibition Poultry and Utility; Pedigree or Line Breeding; Practical Breeding and Rearing of Prize Poultry; Exhibiting; Shows—Judging—Trimming—Technical Terms; Poultry Diseases and Vices—Vermin, etc., etc.

Poultry Spells Profit to Every Owner of this Great Work

This work tells how to convert egg failures into egg successes; how to systematize at all stages; and all about the management of the industry right down to the marketing point. Conditions in all great poultry centers and countries are discussed, and the best practical business methods of each explained. From beginning to end the book keeps the PAYING POINT in view; all facts, figures and explanations are based upon ACTUAL EXPERIENCE.

One Encyclopaedic Volume
of 600 Large
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Forty-five full-page plates in color and black-and-white embellish the pages of this splendid work; all by J. W. Ludlow; and there are innumerable pictures scattered throughout the text. The work is finely printed in a large, clear, readable type and bound in stout, extra durable cloth binding with lettering in gold, gilt edges. Size of volume 9 1/4 x 11 x 2. Weight, seven pounds. Without question the finest poultry book ever published.

The Best and Most Practical Poultry Book in the World

has been the verdict of experts everywhere, and we believe a thorough examination at our expense of this new and rewritten edition of the book will convince you that this statement is no exaggeration. It is impossible in limited space to set forth the innumerable details in which this book excels all others. An examination alone can do this. That is why we urge you to take advantage of our

Special Offer to Responsible Readers:

Let us send you this great work ON APPROVAL. We want you to examine it thoroughly before deciding. We want you to judge for yourself its great, practical, money-making value TO YOU. The price is only \$8.50. Just send us 50c with the coupon opposite and you will receive the book, carriage prepaid. If after five days you don't want it, simply notify us and hold subject to our order. We will then refund your money. If you keep it pay us the balance \$1.00 a month until settled in full. (If you wish to pay cash deduct 5%.)

The Feather Pub. Co., Inc. Nat'l Bank of Washington Washington, D.C.

THE FEATHER PUBLISHING CO., INC.,

Nat'l Bank of Washington, Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen—I send you herewith 50c (stamps accepted) for which kindly send me, carriage prepaid, one copy of Lewis Wright's "New Book of Poultry." It is understood I may examine this work five days, and if I do not wish to keep it I agree to notify you and hold subject to your order, and you are to refund my money. If I decide to keep it I agree to pay the balance of \$8 in monthly installments of \$1 each until settled in full.

Name

Occupation

Address

Shows and Associations

For liberal premiums, uniform exhibition coops, high quality birds, a clean show, good judges, fair and just treatment of all exhibitors, large and interested crowds to see your birds, and for good sales, the Missouri State Fair at Sedalia, Mo., ranks among the very best in the United States. On practically all standard varieties the following liberal premiums are paid: First, \$3; second, \$2; third \$1. Pens, first, \$5; second, \$3; third, \$2. All birds are entered free, only a coop and feed charge of 25 cents per bird or \$1 per pen.

One of the big attractions of the poultry department of the fair is going to be the egg laying contest. These birds will be placed in one of the most prominent places on the fair grounds, in the coops formerly occupied by the game department.

STATE FAIR EGG LAYING CONTEST.

In order to give poultry breeders the opportunity to demonstrate the utility qualities of their flocks as well as the fancy points, this new feature has been added. Thousands of farmers visit the fair each year. Most of them are interested in good poultry and all are interested in good egg producers. It will be a feature of the fair which will attract great attention. It will also give you an opportunity to do a lot of valuable advertising, and this pen can be used as a sales pen for your flock. Your name and address, the variety of poultry, and also the record for each day will appear on the pen if you wish it. It will also give the visitors an opportunity to see how fowls are fed for egg production, the use of trap nests, and various other useful poultry appliances in actual operation.

The contest will be in charge of T. E. Quisenberry, who has charge of the National Egg Laying Contest at the experiment station at Mountain Grove, Mo. Even though you do not win a prize the advertising feature will be worth many times the cost to you.

1. Each pen must be composed of six females of pure bred poultry, all of the same variety.

2. Pen fee, \$1 per pen of females, and one male if you wish it.

3. The fowls will all be fed alike, given the same care and treatment, and will be under the exclusive care and direction of the superintendent.

4. Birds intended for this contest must be so specified on your entry, giving the numbers of leg bands of each, and the entry must reach the secretary of the fair on or before September 20.

5. Fowls entered in the egg laying contest will be received and cared for at the fair grounds on and after the date of September 25. We advise sending the birds early so they will be accustomed to their new quarters, the new method of feeding, and recover from the effects of shipping.

6. Competition is open to the world. Number of entries limited to twenty-five. If the entries are all filled without it, no party can enter more than one pen of one variety.

7. Cash premiums will be paid as follows: For the pen laying the greatest number of marketable eggs from the date of the opening until the date of closing the fair: First, \$10; second, \$8; third, \$6; fourth, \$4; fifth, \$2; sixth, \$2; seventh, \$2; eighth, \$1; ninth, \$1, tenth, \$1. For the greatest number of marketable eggs laid by one hen or pullet, first prize, \$5.

8. The directors of the fair or the superintendent have the right to reject

any and all pens if they are diseased or for any other good reason.

9. The contest will begin Saturday, September 28, 9 a. m., and close Friday, October 4, 5 p. m.

It is our purpose to make this exhibit grander and better than ever. Write the secretary of the fair, John T. Stinson, Sedalia, Mo., for a copy of the premium list.

The third annual show of the Berkeley County Poultry and Pet Stock Association, which will be held at Martinsburg, W. Va., November 27 to 30, promises to be one of the very best of the early winter shows. It will excel in every respect the last year's show, which was pronounced the best ever held in West Virginia. The State Show and Institute of the West Virginia branch of the American Poultry Association will be held in connection with the show. This assures the attendance of many of the most prominent breeders in the country who will take this opportunity to try out their birds before the big winter show season begins. The show will be in the hands of the same careful and painstaking management and will be handled by the same judges as last year, and it is the purpose of the management to maintain the reputation which they have established and give to every exhibitor a square deal. Martinsburg is ideally located for a poultry show. Lying as it does at the junction of the Cumberland and Shenandoah Valleys and the bisection of two railways with 35 passenger trains a day, it has perfect transportation facilities North, South, East and West. Birds shipped from Buffalo, New York, or Richmond, Va., will reach the show room in twelve hours; from Chicago in twenty-four. A large number of valuable and attractive special prizes will be offered in addition to the regular premiums and those offered by the State branch, A. P. A. The premium list and other information relative to the show can be had by addressing Taylor H. Jefferson, secretary, Box 666, Martinsburg, W. Va.

The English Indian Runner Club of America was organized April 4, 1912. The club is governed by a board of twelve directors, and consists of the most prominent breeders and judges of this variety in America. The English standard has been adopted verbatim, with the addition that any duck laying a green or tinted egg is disqualified. In the near future a club catalogue will be published containing a list of the members, the club's standard, and many other good things of interest to all breeders of this variety, which will be furnished free to all members. We are having classes provided at all leading shows and the many specials to be offered at these shows will bring out large classes. Membership fee, including first year's dues, is \$1. All breeders of English (white egg) Runners are requested to join and help boost the only real runners where they rightfully belong. Your name in this club will be a guarantee to the purchasing public that you have the genuine Runners. The English Runners are enjoying a lasting boom today. If you are interested in this wonderful breed get in and help the good work along. Send in your name with your dues, or write for application and particulars now. W. J. Patton, secretary-treasurer, Blue Bell Farm, Glenview, Ill.

CLASSIFIED ADS

PRICES FOR CLASSIFIED ADS.

Fully prepaid advertisements of twenty-five words or less inserted under this heading at the following rates:

One time	\$1.00
Three times	2.00
Six times	4.00
One year	7.00

Copy may be changed as often as desired, though we advise running a standard ad when possible, in order that buyers may become acquainted with it. Length of ad is not limited, but additional words will be charged for at the rate of 4 cents each for one insertion, or 2½ cents each for each insertion when run three times or more. Figures count as single words.

WYANDOTTES

"REGAL" WHITE WYANDOTTES "DUSTON." Direct from Martin. Stay white. Chicks: 20 cents; 100, \$15. Eggs: 15, \$1.50; 50, \$4; 100, \$6. Elwood Taylor, Berwyn, Md.

WYANDOTTES—BOYD'S WASHINGTON Strain of Black Wyandottes are still winning. Stock and eggs for sale. Write for circular and prices. Geo. H. Boyd, 1255 Morse St. N. E., Washington, D. C.

WYANDOTTES—STOCK AND EGGS TO sell from winners of White Wyandottes at Washington, Warrenton, Richmond, etc. Circular giving winnings and prices sent on request. W. W. Thomas, Catlett, Va.

1,000 PURE DUSTON WHITE WYANDOTTES, raised on 50-acre farm, 20 yards, mated for eggs. Get prices on your wants. Allen Sechrist, Port Trevorton, Pa.

LEGHORNS

BREEDING S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS. Exclusive eggs for sale, \$2 per 15, or \$5 per 100. Satisfaction guaranteed. John M. Yeager, Gilbertsville, Pa.

ROSE COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—WINNERS at Madison Square, Buffalo and Rochester. Mating list and circular. Eight grand pens. Box F, Howard J. Fisk, Falconer, N. Y.

S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS OF SUPERIOR quality. An amalgamation of America's best blood lines. Mated right and bred right. Why experiment? Our stock is beyond that stage. Profit by our loss. Nice stock for sale, both young and old. That will start you on the road to success. Holiday Heights Poultry Farm, Sellersville, Pa.

WHITE ROCKS, WHITE AND BROWN Leghorns. Mating list free. Snugheanna Yards, Route 2, Wrightsville, Pa.

S. C. W. LEGHORNS—HEAVY LAYERS and vigorous stock. Eggs, \$2 per 50; \$3.50 per 100; \$15 for 500. John C. Beck, Middletown, Pa.

ROSE-COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—EGGS and baby chicks for sale. Send for my list winnings. James G. Todd, Punxsutawney, Pa., Route 4.

ROSE-COMB BUFF LEGHORNS AND Columbian Wyandottes. Eggs for hatching. Stock for sale. Write to Harry A. Crumhling, East Prospect, York Co., Pa.

100 S. C. W. LEGHORN HENS FOR SALE (yearlings). Wyckoff and Lakewood strains, also 50 S. C. R. I. Reds, all at dead cheap prices to make room for young stock. L. E. Featherston, Au Sable Forks, N. Y.

ORPINGTONS

BLACK ORPINGTON WINNERS AT 7 shows this year, including Baltimore, Hagerstown, for sale. Also Whites. Eggs for hatching. R. D. Lillie, Takoma Park, D. C.

S. C. BUFF ORPINGTONS and R. I. Reds, one pen each, specially mated. Eggs, \$2 per 15. Hollis E. Cole, 80 Oak St., Florence, Mass.

ORPINGTONS—WHITE (BOTH COMBS) Single Comb Buff, Black. New York, Boston, Allentown, Hagerstown, Williamsport winners. Eggs. Baby chicks. Prices reasonable. Mating list free. Wm. Seldel, Box H, Washingtonville, Pa.

GENUINE KELLERSTRASS PEGGY—Crystal King Strain. Stock, eggs and baby chicks. Get my prices before buying. Write for mating list. J. R. Inskeep, Holly, Mich.

KELLERSTRASS STRAIN. WHITE ORPINGTONS. Eggs, \$1.50 per 15; \$7 per 100. Ed. Leclerc, Central City, Iowa.

ROSE COMB BUFF ORPINGTONS—Golden Strain. Great size, color and exhibition qualities. Eggs, \$3 and \$5 per setting. Booklet free. S. D. Lance, Troy, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND WHITES

RHODE ISLAND WHITES. KRISTAL Strain. Before placing orders send for our free, illustrated catalogue. It proves why Kristal strain is best. Bass Bros., Box 375, Marietta, N. Y.

RHODE ISLAND WHITES. EXCELLENT winter layers. Eggs from fine matings, \$2 per fifteen. Arthur J. Deex, Berea, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND REDS

YOU WILL NEED THE NEW RHODE Island Red Journal. Devoted to the Reds exclusively. Best advertising medium in the world for Red breeders. No waste circulation. Send 50c. now for full year's subscription to O. A. Studier, Editor, Waverly, Iowa.

HIGHEST GRADE SINGLE-COMB REDS. Color and shape unsurpassed. Eggs at \$3 per setting of fifteen. Wistaria Poultry Farm, Northfield, Mass., Geo. R. Witte, Proprietor.

ROSE COMB REDS (DE GRAFF STRAIN). Eggs, \$2.50 per 15; also pairs and trios, tested breeders or young stock, very reasonable. Navarre Poultry Yards, Toledo, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND REDS—BOTH COMBS, from finely selected birds, heavy laying strain. Eggs, \$1 per 15, or \$5 per 100. Hugh Brinton, West Chester, Pa.

IF INTERESTED IN STRICTLY FINE, Prize Winning, Rose Comb, R. I. Reds, send postal for my 1912 mating list. You won't regret it. Highland Farm, Herbert M. Tucker, Owuer, Canton, Me.

BANTAMS

BANTAM SPECIALIST—BUFF, BLACK, Partridge Cochins and Light Brahmas. I ship on approval—circular free. Geo. C. Salmon, Port Dickinson, N. Y.

MOHAWK BANTAM YARDS. HIGH-Class, Exhibition Black Red and Red Pyle Games, Rose Comb Blacks, Partridge and Buff Cochins. Shipped on approval. Box B, Schenectady, N. Y.

JAPANESE, ROSE COMBS, FRIZZLES, Polish, Cochins, Silkies, Sultans. No circular. M. Hurd, Marshall, Mich.

BANTAMS, EGGS, 34 VARIETIES. SEND 2-cent stamp for circular. A. A. Fenn, Box 92, Delavan, Wis.

GOLDEN SEABRIGHT BANTAMS. Prize winners. Will sell all my old birds cheap. Eggs, \$1.50 for 13. Fred Kintz, Seven Valleys, Pa.

HOUDANS

HOUDANS—NOTHING BUT HOUDANS. Eggs, \$2 per 15, from the largest Houdan breeder in Colorado—three yards. C. G. Walton, Ni Wot, Colo.

The "Poultry Raisers' Association of Hammonton, N. J.," is the title of an organization that has a double object, viz.: To hold experience meetings, to cooperate in both knowledge and shipments, and to annually hold a poultry show. The association is working in conjunction with the New Jersey State Experiment Station, and controls a membership of nearly fifty. The poultry show that will be given the coming December will be up-to-date. The association owns a full equipment, and has already engaged the largest hall in the town for the exhibition. The dates set are December 3, 4, 5 and 6. George O. Brown, of Baltimore, Md., has been engaged to pass judgment. Mr. Brown needs no introduction to the poultry world. He has filled the capacity of judge in all the large shows of America, and has probably done as much, if not more, to elevate our American breeds than has any other authority in the country. Judge Brown is an all-around judge, very exact, and his decisions are always fair. A record given by him will be of untold value. The Poultry Raisers' Association of Hammonton has for its officers: President, Michael K. Boyer; vice president, George Collins; secretary, Thomas J. Kelley; treasurer, Joseph F. Westerman.

The Poultry Fanciers' Association of Long Island, Inc., has been formed at Hempstead, Long Island, with well known fanciers as officers and such men as August Belmont, Frank N. Doubleday, William J. Gaynor and J. Sergeant Cram on the Board of Honorary Vice Presidents. Their first show will be held November 11 to 16, at Hempstead, in the handsome and commodious Municipal Building, and from the encouragement already received an excellent exhibition seems assured. The show will be held under the rules of the American Poultry Association, of which the organization is a member. The judges will be of the best: W. H. Card, secretary and treasurer of Rhode Island Red Club of America, and recognized as one of the foremost authorities on American breeds; Rowland Story, the Minorca expert; Stanton, without whom no Eastern show is complete, and Percy Cook, whose name will be linked with that of the Orpington forever. The secretary-treasurer is R. H. Wilcox, at Hempstead.

The American White Orpington Club offers as specials at the shows this season a set of handsome white silk club ribbons with gold fringe, as follows: One for best Single Comb White Orpington cock; one for best Single Comb White Orpington cockerel; one for best Single Comb White Orpington hen; one for best Single Comb White Orpington pullet. Also handsome club medals for best Single Comb White Orpington pen; also handsome club cups at State shows. The specials are open to members only who are in good standing and have paid dues to and including 1912 or 1913. All breeders should join this club and compete for these handsome specials. The initiation fee is only \$1, which includes first year's dues. Yearly dues \$1, or life membership \$10. Full information and fine new club book full of good articles on White Orpingtons can be had by writing the secretary, F. S. Bullington, Box 328, Richmond, Va.

Officers of the Fanciers' Association of Indiana and the National Fanciers' Club held a joint meeting in Indianapolis and discussed plans for combining the poultry shows of the two organizations next year. No definite arrangements were made, but an agreement probably will be reached at a second meeting to be held soon, and will be

submitted to the membership of the two organizations for ratification. The following represented the Fanciers' Association at the meeting: U. R. Fishel, Hope, president; Frank P. Johnson, Indianapolis, vice president, and C. R. Milhous, Lebanon, secretary. The National Fanciers' Club was represented by A. E. Martz, Arcadia, president; Henry C. Dippel, Indianapolis, secretary-treasurer, and C. S. Byers, Hazelrigg, and Herman F. Rickhoff, Indianapolis, members of the executive board.

With the issuing of their handsome premium list the Tri-State Poultry Association have completed the preliminary work for the South's greatest fall show during the week of September 23 to 29, 1912. This list covers everything from Bantams to Turkeys. Not a breed or variety is forgotten. A prize won at Memphis is worth winning, for it is conceded to be the gateway of the great South and Southwest and numerous sales at good prices are the rule. Better still, the Association issues every January 1 a directory of classified breeders, including those who exhibited and their winnings. Ten thousand copies of these are distributed to buyers of poultry, feed, etc., who use it as a reference book and guide for their purchases. For copy of premium list address R. B. Buchanan, secretary, 322 S. Main St., Memphis, Tenn.

The Ancona Club stands for progress, justice and cooperation, and merits the support of every interested breeder. Breeders working together through the club can accomplish much more than they can separately in boosting the breed, stimulating exhibition, increasing the demand for stock and eggs, procuring a proper standard for breeding, creating new Ancona breeders, and having the merits of the breed more widely known. Come in and help boost! Special offer, to be withdrawn before January 1, 1913: Membership, one year, 85 cents; three years, \$2.25; five years, \$3.50; ten years, \$6.25. A handsome certificate of membership presented to each five-year and ten-year member. To other members the certificate will be 50 cents to pay cost of printing and mailing.

The Rose Comb White Orpington Club offers at every fall and winter show the following specials to its members: A gold plated medal will be given to every member winning a first in competition with one other member. Where ten members compete a silver cup will be offered; any State which has ten members is entitled to have State cup. Dues are \$1 per year. The officers are Percy Cook, Scotch Plains, N. J., president; Lawrence Jackson, Haysville, Pa., vice president, and Milton W. Brown, Station L, Cincinnati, Ohio, secretary.

Know the Truth

Just now there is a struggle to keep down the lice and mites on poultry. These vermin are the worst enemies of the fowl kingdom, and the harder the fight for the suppression of these pests, the better will be your results. No hen can be profitable, and neither can the youngsters thrive when infested with these pests. Look over the situation and see just how you stand on this proposition. Don't fool yourself that your birds have no lice, for these torments are ever on the alert and are no respecters of fowls or places. Be sure you know the truth, for guesswork never amounted to much in such matters.

ANCONAS

ANCONAS—CINCINNATI AND COLUMBUS Ohio State Show, First Prize Winners. Stock, eggs, baby chicks. Write for free catalogue. Evans & Timms, Box W, Malta, Ohio.

SHENK'S ANCONAS LAID ALL THE Winter and laying now. Fifteen eggs, \$1.25; 30, \$2.25; 50, \$3.50. Thirty-six page poultry catalogue free. Clarence Sbenk, Luray, Va.

SILVER CAMPINES

IMPROVED SILVER CAMPINES. Excellent layers of large white eggs. Small feeders, hardy, vigorous, easy to raise. Eggs, \$5 per 13. J. L. Paulhamus, Dewart, Pa.

BRAHMAS

LIGHT BRAHMAS. THE PURE OLD Strain of Personal Merit. Prize winning matings. Eggs, \$3 per setting. Fine Markings. Heavy layers. A. M. Jacoby, Harrisburg, Pa.

CORNISH

DARK CORNISH STOCK AND EGGS FOR Sale, also Buff Turkey Toms. Circular free. M. J. Van Eman, Box E, Elgin, Ohio.

FAVEROLLES

ENGLISH SALMON FAVEROLLES AND Lakenfelders. Going west, must sell all prize winners at a price that will surprise you. C. J. Swanson, Sycamore, Ill.

DOMINIQUE

CARTER'S DOMINIQUE WON EVERY first prize at the last Boston show in a hot class. Beautiful cockerels and pullets for sale, low. A. Q. Carter, Freeport, Me.

EGGS

EGGS AND BABY CHICKS FROM MY grand prizewinners. White and Brown Leghorns, Anconas, Houdans, Brabmas, Reds, Rocks, White Minorcas and Rose Comb and Single Comb Black Minorcas. Eggs, \$1 per 15; chicks, 12 to 15 cents each. Stamps for replies. Louis Waber, New Galilee, Pa.

SIXTY EGGS, \$3; 15, \$1; TWO MEDICATED nest eggs with each order. 26 varieties. Poor hatches duplicated at half price. 26 years as breeders. Circular free. Whitney & Son, Triangle, N. Y.

CHICKENS, EGGS, 22,000 CAPACITY. Barred, White and Buff Rock and Reds. 15 years through culling and selecting for health, vigor and great laying qualities. Safe arrival guaranteed. Brooks Farrar, South Easton, Mass.

EGGS FROM LARGE BLACK COCHINS, Buff Frizzles, Crested Ducks and Schright Bantams. All varieties Fancy and Utility Pigeons. Stamp. J. H. Sell, Jr., Haver, Pa.

BUFF PLYMOUTH ROCK EGGS FOR hatching from choice matings, \$1.25 per 15, or \$4 per 50. Winegar & Co. Poultry Farm, Ocean, Va.

I AM BOOKING ORDERS FOR EGGS. Best strain of S. C. White Leghorns. A few White Orpington Cockerels for sale. Address Mrs. Dora Brown, 4027 Belle Ave., N. Forest Park, Baltimore, Md.

EGGS FOR HATCHING—LIGHT AND Buff Brahmata, \$2 per 15. If you want good winter layers try mine. C. C. Arnold, Millers Falls, Mass.

PHEASANTS.

PHEASANT EGGS—FROM PEN RAISED. Unrelated Birds. Goldens, Silvers, Japanese, Reeves, Ambersts, Swinehaes, Elliotts, English Ring and Blue Necks. Send for catalogue. Broadway Pheasantries, Geneva, Ohio.

DUCKS

COOK'S PIONEER WHITE-EGG STRAIN of American standard fawu and white Indian Runners. Fine males reasonable. Eggs: 12, \$5; 24, \$8; 50, \$15; 100, \$30. Circular. Irving E. Cook, Munnsville, N. Y.

PEKIN DUCKS AND TOULOUSE GEESSE winners at Madison Square, Hagerstown, Philadelphia, etc. Send for circular prices and list of winnings. W. Thomas, Catlett, Va.

INDIAN RUNNER AND MAMMOTH Pekin Ducks, 13 Eggs, \$1. Bred under ideal conditions and from first-class stock. Thirty-six page poultry catalogue. Clarence Shenk, Luray, Va.

LEG BANDS

USE BAIR'S ALUMINUM BANDS FOR marking poultry and pigeons. Sample dozen, open bands, mailed for one dime. Mention variety you breed. Bair, "The Band Man," 26 Twilight Yards, Hanover, Pa.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—TRAINED RABBIT HOUNDS. Fox Hounds and Broke Coon, Opossum and Skunk Dogs, Deer and Bear Dogs; and young stock and pet stock; Pigeons, Rabbits and Ferrets. Free price list. Brown Kennels, York, Pa.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE FOR FIRE-arms, Boston Bull Dog or Airedale Terrier—One Seneca view camera, 4 x 5, as good as new, never been used but two months. I. E. Featherston, Au Sable Forks, N. Y.

FOR SALE—EGGS FROM MY 1912 S. C. White Orpington winners, from \$1.50 to \$4 per 15. Cook strain. Send for mating list. A few choice cockerels from \$3 to \$5. Bert A. Thompson, Box 700, Groveland Sta., N. Y.

RABBITS

JUMBO JET BLACKS, FLEMISH GIANTS—Extra Large. Pedigreed Red Belgians. High Grade and Utility Stock. Prices. One Dollar up. Write Jess McCulley, North Lewisburg, Ohio.

PIGEONS

I OFFER GUARANTEED MATED Homers, in any quantity, at \$1 a pair, and challenge squab companies or dealers to produce better stock at twice this price. Beautiful White Homers, \$1.50 pair. Get my prices on Runts, Carneaux and Maltese Hens, and save dollars. Charles C. Gilhert, 1563 East Montgomery Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.

WHITE RUNTS ARE OUR SPECIALTY. They are one of the largest of all varieties of pigeons, measuring from 36 to 44 inches wing spread. Are pure white in color and great breeders of large, white-meated squabs. No other variety compares with them. Our lofts contain some of the finest specimens in America. Green & Kaple, Box 40, Waterville, N. Y.

MISCELLANEOUS

BULLETIN ON "BALANCED RATION" absolutely free; tells how to compound at home most economical and healthful mash, chick foods, scratch foods. Drop postal, giving your dealer's name and address, to Henola Food Co., Box A-24, Newark, N. J.

90 VAR'S ALL BREEDS POULTRY, eggs, ferrets, dogs, pigeons, hares, etc. List free. Colored des. 60-page book, 10c. J. A. Bergey, Box 22, Telford, Pa.

BARRED ROCK BREEDERS—SEND 50 cents for National Barred Rock Journal, the only monthly magazine issued wholly in the interests of the Grand Old Breed. Also the logical advertising medium for Barred Rock breeders. W. L. Robinson, Pub., Union City, Mich.

ANCONAS, COLUMBIAN WYANDOTTES and Indian Runner Ducks. First-class stock. Pens mated to produce winners. Eggs, \$2 for two settings. C. E. Wilcox, Danboro, Pa.

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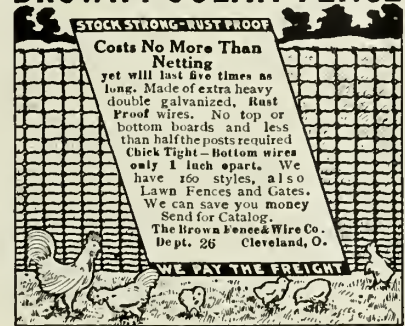
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standard breeds and varieties of poultry, ducks, geese and turkeys. It gives
the history of each variety, including its origin and development, enumerates
its special characteristics and describes its shape and color. The subject-matter
is by T. F. McGrew and Geo. E. Howard, and the illustrations are by Louis P.
Graham. Each of the parti-colored varieties is represented by a drawing of
the male and female, which are surrounded by sample feathers from different
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Vol. XVI. No. 9
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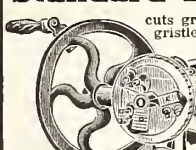
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The best way to make your poultry house warm is to build it as low as possible without danger of bumping heads. Our "model" house will be six feet high in front, and four in the rear; thirty-two feet long by twelve deep. Use 2x4s for the frame work and cheap siding for the roof and sides. Drygoods boxes can often be utilized if they will cut without waste. On the south or front side, board up three feet, leaving the remaining three feet open, except to cover it with the finest wire netting to be had. If your location is extremely stormy provide muslin curtains, but never use them unless absolutely necessary. The birds, if kept busy, will keep sufficiently warm, and at night they will be protected by roost curtains. Cover the house, roof and sides with first-class roofing paper, and it is nearly ready to move into. The foundation walls should be built

up about 18 inches above the ground level; about ten inches should be filled in with small stone or with crushed gravel, and the remainder with fine sand or dry soil. The floor should be continuously kept covered with about ten inches of clean litter. Do not use dry leaves, as many people advocate, for they will crumble up too fine and mass; baled shavings or rye straw is the best.

Along the rear wall a dropping board three feet wide should be built, with nests fastened under. All interior appliances should be made portable, and the roosts should be built 6 or 8 inches above the platform. In front of the roosts fasten a curtain of unbleached muslin that can be lowered during very cold nights, and rolled up and secured to the roof during the day. Wire partitions can be put in as desired, but fasten burlap along the bottom for a height of three feet to prevent birds from fighting through the wire.

After the house is built to your satisfaction, select your birds. If possible get laying pullets or yearling hens that are well through moulting. Commence right by selecting thoroughbreds. No matter what breed you decide on, if the birds haven't been bred as they should be, it is simply time and money thrown away to bother with them. If you can't get birds that are standard bred, don't get any.

Select your birds with a view to heavy laying, standard quality, vigor and health. About \$50 should be invested in good stock, although not many exhibition birds could be purchased at that price. In the fall, many of our most prominent breeders sell off good business flocks of standard-bred fowls to make room for their young stock. Sometimes the prices of these birds won't average over a dollar each, and at all times most breeders have good stock for sale at two or three dollars each.

Deducting \$40 for the house, \$50 for the birds, this leaves a working balance of \$10 of the original capital. This should be used for feed, expressage, etc. When the birds arrive, give them the best of care. If never having kept poultry before, a few dollars will be well invested in a few good poultry papers and books. If possible, spend some of your time with a successful poultryman near your home and then when your birds arrive you can profit by his experience and advice. This is a chance that all beginners can't profit by, however.

If the beginning is made in the fall, as is the best time, the winter egg production will be the main object. It will be best to allow the fowls to run together, using no males until the breeding season. By this time the beginner should be able to spend considerable money in purchasing males. Get males strong in points that the females lack, purchasing only strong, vigorous and active birds. The male is half of the flock and great attention should be bestowed upon his selection. Remember that the best is always cheapest in the end, and \$50 invested in a well-bred pen is much better than the same amount invested in culls.

To make a successful start in the poultry business it is poor policy to expend any more capital than is absolutely necessary. In many respects the less money a person has to start with the better it is. Usually the beginner expects altogether too much at the start. Ten thousand dollar birds can not be raised from eggs costing one dollar per setting. Nor can a beginner make good at the start. He will have his ups and downs, sometimes more downs than ups, but if you keep everlastingly at it you will win out in the end.

Locating Poultry Houses

One of the most essential things in poultry keeping is to have a suitable house which will protect the fowls from inclement weather and from their natural enemies. It is well understood that no two farms will present exactly the same conditions; for instance, one farmer may desire to keep one hundred hens, while another will want many more or less. Then again, some farms will present one kind of soil, whereas on other farms the character of the soil and drainage are entirely different. Some farmers will desire a house which presents an attractive appearance, whereas on other farms poultry houses will be so located that they are not conspicuous, and hence the matter of appearance is of little concern.

It must be remembered that from the standpoint of the hen, appearance makes very little difference, but the house must be so built and so arranged that it will be a comfortable place for the hens to live; otherwise they will not thrive, and production will not be satisfactory. On many farms the hens are not provided with a house constructed especially for them, but are housed in an old building originally made for some other purpose. As a rule this sort of a house is not economical, for unless it is constructed especially for hens it will seldom be found possible to reconstruct it in such a way as to make economical production possible.

Poultry houses should be located where it is dry and well drained. If the ground is not naturally dry, it should be ditched and drained artificially, for poultry will not thrive in a house when the floor is constantly wet. A damp location means a damp poultry house all the way through, and the result is that the fowls are affected with many troublesome diseases. Damp ground that is likely to remain muddy around the house is not satisfactory, because the hens' feet become soiled, and as a consequence the eggs and nests become dirty, and dirty eggs are unattractive on the market. If cleaned, a large amount of labor is necessary, and with the best of care, cleaned eggs never look so well as eggs that have never been soiled. When hens run at large on wet ground the litter on the floor of the house soon

becomes dirty and wet, thus making a very unsatisfactory place for feeding. The ground out of doors is also unsatisfactory for feeding, as wet ground soon becomes filthy and the filth sticks to the feed, making it impossible for the hens to pick it up without consuming more or less filth. Ground which is naturally wet is cold in the spring. It is also slower to become aerated and holds filth on the surface much longer than dry ground.

Houses should be placed so that they will not be subject to violent winds; yet good air and drainage are essential. A house should never be placed in a low, damp spot where early fall frosts are likely to occur. These places are always cold and unhealthy for fowls.

Build the house on the ground that slopes to the south if possible. If this can not be done, always face the house toward the south, so as to get the sun's rays throughout the day in winter to keep it bright inside. Where it is necessary to build a house in a windy place, trees can often be planted to break the wind. Small shrubs are also a great help and can be planted in such a way that they afford shelter to the house during the fall and spring when the winds are violent. Hens enjoy lying in the sun, especially during the windy days after the leaves fall from the trees. The orchard can often be chosen as the site for the hen house, and the hens allowed to run under the trees throughout the year.

Poultry houses should be convenient to other buildings, and yet not so close that the hens constantly infest the other buildings. If the poultry house is too close to the barns the hens are likely to get in the habit of roosting in the barn, cow stable, tool shed, etc.—Wisconsin Experiment Station.

A Lively Time

Superior, Wis., Feb. 12.—The high price of eggs caused by the scarcity here resulted in a decision to auction off seven dozen absolutely fresh eggs. Such a riot was created among women to get some really fresh eggs that many of them suffered torn hair, clothing and bruises.

Some even climbed to the window of the building, where the eggs were being sold, in order to gaze upon really fresh "hen fruit." The eggs auctioned were those laid during the poultry show just closed, and sales of a dozen eggs at a time brought such prices that it was finally decided to auction off the remainder in lots of three. Those who were outbid were allowed to gaze upon the eggs before they left the building.

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Preparing for Show-Room

Every exhibitor, large or small, is quite anxious for any information that will aid him in preparing his stock for the exhibition room. When this is true how can we wonder or be surprised at the amateur, who anxiously inquires, "How can I best prepare my birds for a respectable presentation in the exhibition hall?"

The one feature most required for the proper presentation of the stock in the exhibition hall is to have them hatched from good, healthy stock and properly grown to a complete maturity. No specimen will make an extraordinarily good exhibition fowl that has not been well grown into a strong, vigorous specimen, having fine constitution. This is necessary from the fact that confinement in the show pen in the exhibition hall is very enervating to all specimens cooped therein.

Presuming that each specimen under consideration had been carefully grown and selected for the purpose, we will attempt to advise our readers of the possibilities of preparing them for the show room. Always remember, however, that the rules of associations make faking a disqualification, and the new rule in the Standard recommends that every specimen shown by the individual exhibiting a fake specimen be discarded from the show-room.

This brings up for consideration the question as to what is "faking." In the language of the new Standard, just issued, faking is described as "removing or attempting to remove foreign color, side-sprigs; trimming of combs, except in Games; artificial coloring; splicing feathers; injuring the plumage of the entry of other exhibitors; plugging up holes; staining of legs, or a self-evident attempt on the part of an exhibitor to deceive the judge, 'all of which must be found out,' in the language of one of our most prominent fanciers, 'before it is fatal.'"

We would refer our readers to the new Standard as to general disqualifications, and these should be carefully studied by each and every exhibitor. It will be noticed that side-sprigs, or sprigs on all single-combed varieties, is a disqualification. This is a very striking innovation or the sad return of the rules of the Standard to make a disqualification of the growth of a sprig on the side of the comb, and in placing in the hands of the judge the opportunity to disqualify a specimen that has a slight scar or an appearance of having been tampered to remove a side-sprig. The definition of "faking" says that "any self-evident attempt on the part of an exhibitor to deceive the judge is faking and faking is a disqualification." A comb that has a scar upon the side of it that may have come from being picked by another when a chick, in the opinion of the judge disqualifies the best specimen in the show.

These words of caution are recorded here as a prelude to the possibilities of carefully preparing birds for exhibition. If, perchance, an expert finds it necessary to remove a side-sprig from an otherwise beautiful comb upon the head of a grand exhibition fowl, he will carefully remove same with a sharp razor. After it has healed a very coarse piece of sandpaper will be bent over the end of the finger, and by careful manipulation of this piece of sandpaper over the scar, first a few rubs forward and backward, then up and down over the same space, will

cause the screening of the scarred place very much like the mesh of a half-toned engraving, so that when the part heals up it will have obliterated the smooth appearance caused by the razor and may possibly create so perfect an imitation of the comb itself as to make it possible for the strongest magnifying glass not to prove that the comb has been tampered with.

Another feature that is classed as a disqualification on this same page, and one, perhaps, that has been more frequently and more awkwardly used than any other one, is the coloring of the shanks of exhibition specimens. Butter color, iodine, and all kinds of dyes have been used in an attempt to bring back to a perfect golden tint the shanks of an elegant specimen that has been bleached out perhaps by age or the alkali of lime in the stall where he has stayed. The most successful of all these applications is the use of sweet oil, which has been strongly colored by annatto, a product sold in drug stores. If the sweet oil is very highly colored with this annatto, and user will take the shanks of the fowl and wash them absolutely clean and free from every bit of dirt and foreign matter, then soak the shanks in warm water until they have been softened and the pores well opened up, dry with a soft towel, and with a woolen rag thoroughly rub over all of the shanks, toes, soles of the feet, with a thorough application three or four times of this preparation, and allow it to dry perfectly, and follow up each day with a coating of this until the shanks are of the desired shading of color; then take a woolen rag and thoroughly rub and polish the shanks until they have a natural living shade most desirable to the specimen, it will take more than ordinary proof to satisfy that they have been colored, provided the work is well done. If awkwardly done anyone can discover it. We have seen it so badly done that a white handkerchief rubbed against the shanks would be stained; and we have seen it so beautifully done that a white cloth soaked with alkali would not prove that they had been stained. On the other hand the accomplishment of the expert has gained the desired end without anyone being able to prove that they had been tampered with, while on the other hand the awkward application of the amateur was his own accuser.

Another feature of faking or disqualification is the removing of foreign color from the face of a fowl. We have known experts to take off the entire outer skin of an earlobe and trim from under the skin the white enameled color in the lobe. When this had been entirely removed, the skin would be replaced, fastened down with collodion, the whole being permitted to heal up; the result being that the white enamel was entirely removed, and the specimen that should have been disqualified in its natural condition was able to pass muster under the successful manipulation of an expert. Others, again, in attempting to do this, have so mutilated the earlobe as to cause it to have the appearance of having passed through a severe battle with some other bird.

Another feature classed as faking is the splicing or the dyeing of the plumage. We know that long sickle feathers are often so successfully spliced into the quill of one of the tail feathers

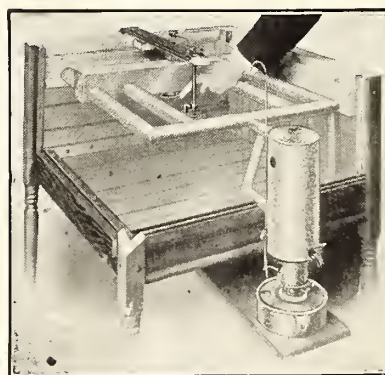
as to obliterate all possibility of detection. If awkwardly done, it is quickly discovered. We know that through the use of what is called the Japanese system of dyeing feathers, it is possible to lay the point or side of a wing feather on a pane of glass and by using the Japanese process, which is the applying of a very strong dye to the web of the feather with a small artist's tool or paint brush, the feather can be so successfully dyed after two or three applications as to utterly remove the possibility of detection. After being dyed, if the whole feather is thoroughly washed with soap and water, in fact, the whole specimen thoroughly cleansed, no one can detect the difference or the fact that the feathers have been dyed. On the other hand, when awkwardly done, the imperfect disposition of the dye is tell-tale evidence that ruins the prospect of the manipulator.

Every specimen that is sent to the exhibition hall, no matter what color the plumage may be, should be thoroughly tub-washed to gain the best prize. This has been so frequently described that it is scarcely necessary to refer to it again. However, in the washing of fowls, in the preparation for the exhibition hall, there is one feature that demands more than passing attention, and that is the placing in presentable condition the shanks of the smooth-legged fowls. The Standard says: "If the judge thinks that some of the holes or rough places in the shanks are caused by the removal of feathers from the same, the specimen may be disqualified." Often there is a clash between the exhibitor and the judge, the former claiming that rough holes were not caused through the removing of stubs or feathers; the judge thinking otherwise, disqualifies a specimen.

To have a perfectly smooth shank that might otherwise be rough or unattractive, soak the shanks twice a day for several days with kerosene oil. After this has been done, suspend the specimen in a hammock, permitting the shanks to hang down through the holes in the swing. Set this upon a chair or stool; with a bucket of warm

water, a woolen rag and a cake of Sapolio, polish or wash or rub down to a smooth surface the entire shanks and feet of the specimen with a woolen rag dipped in water and thoroughly covered with Sapolio. We have known a patient exhibitor to work five or six hours in this way with a pair of rough shanks until they were as smooth as glass, and as rich in color as is possible for a yellow shank to be. After these shanks have been thoroughly polished, and placed in the finest condition in this way, wash them absolutely clean with warm water, and anoint them with a mixture of one-half alcohol and one-half sweet oil. Place the specimens in a coop with a perfectly clean floor that may be covered with chaff or cut straw. The following day anoint the shanks again with the mixture of alcohol and sweet oil. Before sending to the show thoroughly tub-wash the specimen, shanks and all, and afterward dry nicely. Never use anything upon the shanks, the face, comb or wattles but pure, cold water. Specimens treated in this way often make a grand appearance in the show-room that might otherwise have been disqualified in bad condition.

The preparation of the specimen for the show summed up in one paragraph is as follows: Perfect health, perfect condition, absolutely free from all possibilities of disqualification of proper weight, shape, formation and color of plumage. If all of these requirements are met to the strongest extent, the specimen is eligible to win. What to feed and how to feed is a question oftentimes propounded. Feed them just as you would like to have them in the very best of condition for any other purpose. Never force them into unnatural weight by overfeeding, for an unnaturally fed specimen will lose as much on the cut for condition as he is likely to gain in the weight clause. Try to grow your specimens for exhibition into a proper size to meet the requirements of the Standard and make it unnecessary to overfeed them to keep them or have them in proper standard weight.—A Contributor.



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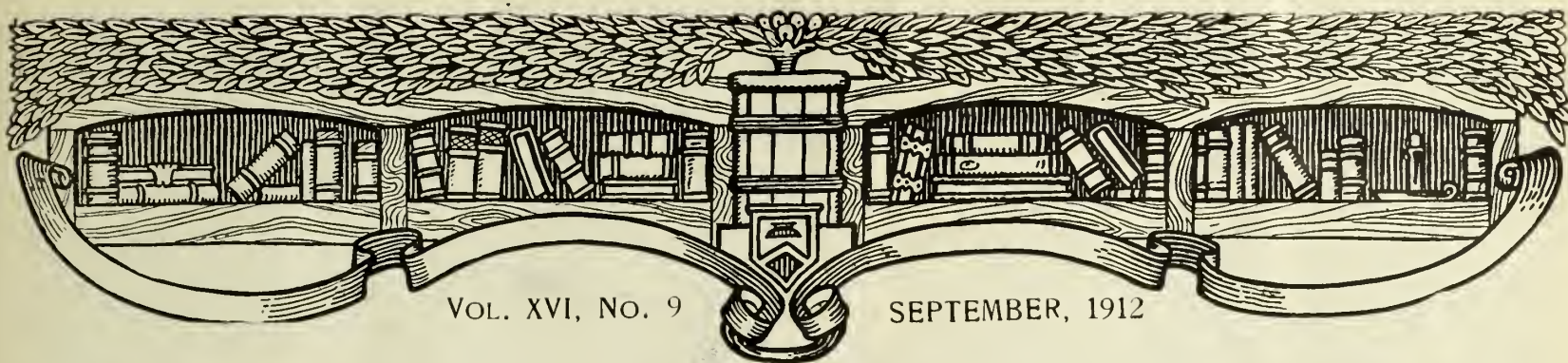
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Editorial Comment

Prof. F. S. Jacoby, head of the Poultry Culture Department of the State University of Ohio, predicts that eggs will be five cents apiece for the coming winter. He has made a careful study of the proposition and there is every likelihood of his prophecy being fulfilled, as storage eggs usually held for winter are now being sold in large cities as fresh eggs and the American hen is unable to supply the demand for this dainty, appetizing product. Our readers who are making a success of the egg business will reap rich rewards during the coming season.

* * *

The premium list of the great Hagerstown show to be held October 15, 16, 17 and 18, 1912, at Hagerstown, Md., promises to be one of the greatest events ever held at this popular place. There is every incentive offered to exhibitors and the reputation of Hagerstown is a sufficient attraction for those who are interested in poultry and pigeons. It is one of the places where each shares alike and where the most happy results are to be had. The readers of The Feather are well aware of the many attractions of Hagerstown and its satisfying management that anticipate one of the most satisfactory events of its history next month.

* * *

If your habits interfere with your principles, cut out your habits.

* * *

The readers of The Feather have become fully acquainted with the writings in our columns by Mr. O. F. Sampson and we are pleased to announce that he has just issued his 1912 Utility Poultry Book and we are satisfied that you will appreciate same when seeing it. We will be very glad, indeed, to send you a copy of this book with each yearly subscription of The Feather at fifty cents per year. For the poultryman, whether an amateur or expert, this book is admirably suited, and we trust that each one of our readers will avail himself of this liberal offer of ours by sending in his subscription to The Feather at fifty cents and asking us to send him a copy of the book.

* * *

Never before in the history of poultry has there been such an enthusiasm for having the best of standard-bred poultry. The competition of the show-room has caused a more enthusiastic feeling among the fanciers and producers of standard-bred poultry throughout the country. All these are straws to indicate which way the wind blows. Being fully apprised of these facts we have extended our efforts along the line of assisting and aiding the poultry fraternity throughout the country in the preparation of some very modern publications in book form at popular prices for the

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benefit of both the amateur and the experienced. From time to time in the near future we shall present these books for your consideration, knowing that they will meet public favor, as all our publications have, simply on their merit and because of their indisputable value to all who may desire to do better with poultry.

* * *

In answer to the question, Can corn be successfully used as a winter food for hens? we have before us a statement that one person, at least, made use of considerable corn for large flocks of hens. This individual, not having the best of success last year in the ripening of his corn, had more nubbins or short ears than he knew what to do with. These were broken or chopped up and thrown into the litter for the hens to scratch and

eat. To balance this ration, milk was made use of in every possible manner for feeding the hens. They were given sweet milk to drink; it was made into curds and fed in that way; it was boiled and used to scald ground oats and bran. In this way the hens were fed a large amount of milk, which balanced well with the corn. As a consequence they had a better egg production than in former winters. The way to make use of the products of the farm is to feed what you can and try to make a balanced ration from your own home-grown stuff, if possible, and thus save the necessity of purchasing. If you must purchase, sell that which you need least and purchase what is most desirable. In this way use the greater part of all your feed for your hens and cattle from your own home-grown stuff and buy that in which the least amount will help to balance up your foods.

* * *

While the season of molt for all birds and fowls is a very natural condition, the unnatural way in which many of our fowls are kept often makes this season of nature's shifting of clothing very debilitating to the fowls. In fact, some people consider the molting of the plumage almost as dangerous as other poultry diseases, but there need not be any great amount of danger or casualties to the fowls passing through their molt. Hens that are too fat, also hens that are very thin, have equally hard trouble in recovering from this condition, while fowls that are strong, and in good, healthy condition as to flesh and fat, usually pass through this season with apparent ease and comfort. Where the fowls are very thin they should be fed heavily of fattening foods, while fowls that are too fat should be fed sparingly on warm mash and plenty of green food. Young growing stock should have plenty of every kind of food that they will eat so as to keep up the growth of bone, body, muscle, flesh, fat and feathers. All of these separate elements should be provided for with that assortment of food which furnishes every element of their construction. If the fowls in their several conditions can be separated and each looked after as above they will all do well, but where they all run together in a large lot or upon the farm they should be fed plentifully with a full selection of grains so that each may select out and have a full ration of that which meets their pleasure and demand. The reason that more fowls die during the season of molt where they all run together than where they are separated is because the need of each is not so well supplied as it might be, and so soon as those that are not so well provided for begin to run down in flesh and become weak the others run over and abuse them and from these causes death ensues.



Standard Varieties of Ducks and Geese

In Two Parts—Part One.

By M. PLUMMER McCULLOUGH

In late years the writer has taken considerable interest in the different varieties of water fowls, and has been breeding a few of them in a small way, and thinking that they should be better known to our readers and more of them bred and raised, I shall try and give a brief description of the leading varieties of ducks and geese.

There are six distinct breeds of geese that are now bred and exhibited in this country. They are the Toulouse, Embden, African, Chinese, Wild or Canadian and the Egyptian.

The Toulouse, Embden and African varieties are the heavy weights of the goose family. The adult ganders of these three varieties should, according to the Standard, weigh twenty pounds when in show condition. The adult goose of these three varieties weighs eighteen pounds. Young ganders of Toulouse and Embden weigh eighteen pounds, and young African ganders, sixteen pounds. Young Embden goose weighs sixteen pounds; young Toulouse goose, fifteen pounds, and young African goose, fourteen pounds.

These three varieties are the leading varieties used for market and used to cross on common geese. The Toulouse are, perhaps, bred in greater numbers than any of the other varieties. In color the Toulouse are gray edged with a lighter gray on shoulders, wings and back. Breast is light gray, getting lighter until it becomes nearly or altogether white upon abdomen. The tail is a mixture of gray and white, the ends tipped with white. Legs and feet are a dark reddish-orange and color of eyes are a dark brown or hazel. In fact, they are so well known by the average poultry keeper that it is hardly necessary to describe them, and it is only for the benefit of amateurs that I do so. They are fast growers and are very large-framed geese.

The Embdens are shaped very much like the Toulouse, though hardly as large a framed bird. They are, I think, rather more solid. In color they are pure white throughout. They have orange-colored shanks and feet and bright blue eyes. The Embdens are one of the best of the goose family and as to saving their feathers, they are much more in demand by feather dealers than colored feathers.

The young stock grow rapidly, and there is no poultry on the farm more beautiful than a good flock of Embden geese.

The African geese are coming into popularity

very rapidly and I believe them to be an excellent variety. I have a friend who is a breeder of Africans, therefore I am somewhat familiar with them. In shape they resemble the Chinese a little, having long necks and standing more upright than the Toulouse or Embden. They also have a knob and dew lap, although the dew lap does not always appear the first year. This makes them something of an ornamental variety, as well as a very profitable market variety. In a recent number of Poultry, R. G. Dawson has an article on the Africans and says, in part:

"A cross between the Brown China geese and the common geese of India was the original progenitor of the African goose. Why they are called African is not clearly understood. The Standard adopted this name in 1879. They will grow the heaviest in the shortest space of any of the varieties.

"This goose when 'stuffed' and marketed will bring the very highest price the market commands and the demand is not half supplied.

"African ganders are used almost exclusively in this section for breeding, as they are the most hearty and vigorous and have great size. These African ganders are crossed on common or grade geese, and this cross is the most profitable to produce the 'stuffed' goose. These will grow the largest of all varieties, either pure-bred or crossed, and one specimen, cross-bred, was known to the writer as weighing thirty-eight pounds and was sold for thirty-eight cents per pound, bringing the sum of \$14.44. There seems to be an awakening to the fact that there is money in raising geese."

While not many of us can expect to get the prices that Mr. Dawson mentions, still we can make a good profit raising geese, and there is always a good demand for good stock for breeding purposes.

The color of the African is a little like the Toulouse, only a different shade. The Standard describes the color as dark gray nearly all over excepting breast, which is light gray on under parts. The neck is light gray with a dark gray stripe down back of neck from head to body. They are quite an ornamental variety, as well, and a flock of them makes a very pretty sight.

The White and Brown Chinese are much smaller than the three varieties mentioned above. The standard weights for Chinese geese are 12, 10, 10 and 8 pounds for adult gander, young gander, adult goose and young goose, respectively.

The Chinese are excellent layers, but not much of a market fowl. In fact, they are not considered a market goose at all, but are said by leading breeders to be the very best layers of the goose family. They are shaped a little like the African and are more like them than any other of the varieties. They have very long, well arched necks, with full breasts, and are very upright in carriage. They, like the African, have a large knob at base of bill, but no dewlaps.

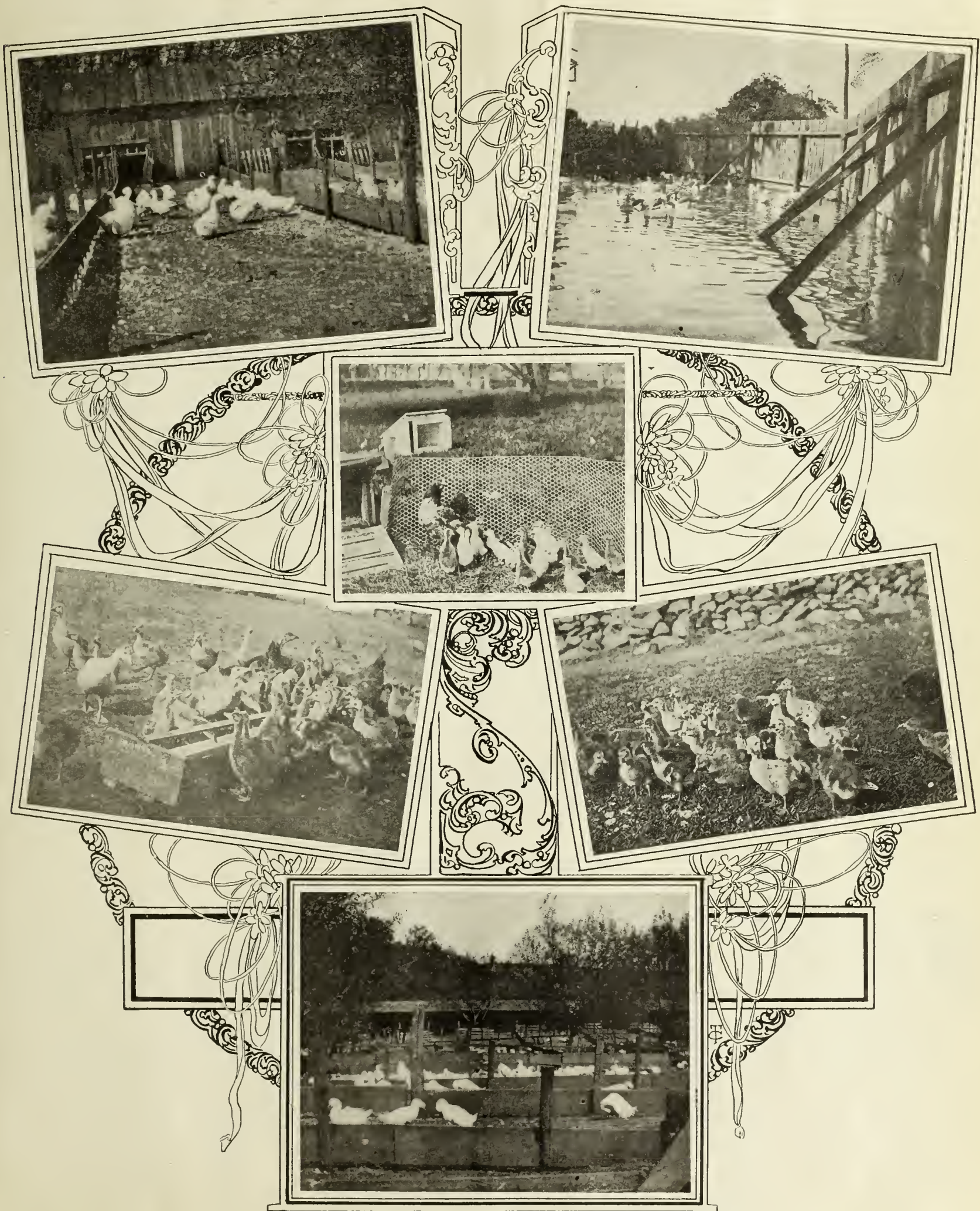
The Brown Chinese resembles the Africans in marking also, but is of a different color. The Standard calls for a grayish-brown, where in Africans it is light and dark gray.

The Whites are pure white and very graceful and beautiful. As an ornamental fowl they rank next to the swan and are often seen in parks and such places of amusement.

The Wild or Canadian geese are kept only for ornamental purposes and they are marked, I think, just exactly like our wild geese of today. They are very attractive looking, but outside of that, and possibly for exhibiting at fall fairs, they are not what the average poultryman would want in the goose line. We had a neighbor fancier who had a small flock, but I don't know how he is coming up with them. This man claims they will not breed the first year at all, and whether this is always the case or not, I don't know, but I presume it is with this variety.

The Egyptian geese are rather odd members of the goose family. In fact, the average person would hardly take them for a variety of geese at all. They are very small in size, weighing only 10, 8 and 6 pounds, for adult gander, young gander and young goose, respectively. Neck and back are gray and black in color. Head is gray and black with chestnut patch around eyes. Breast is chestnut in center and remainder is gray. Body color is gray and black on upper parts, with pale buff pencilled with black on under parts. Wings are white on shoulders with a bar of rich metallic luster. Primaries and secondaries are glossy black, as is also the tail. You can readily see that they are an odd variety and would be of little use except for ornamental and show purposes.

Strange as it may seem to many, geese are easily kept. In fact, if they have a good bottom pasture land, they will need very little other food except during the laying and breeding season. They are great grass eaters and must have green



food of some kind if profitably kept. I feed practically nothing to my old geese during the summer and fall months. They have plenty of pasture and seem perfectly satisfied. The goslings will eat lots of feed while growing, although if given a good piece of fresh clover for pasture along in August and September they can get along with no grain food. However, it is not possible to raise as large goslings with pasture as when they are given some other food, therefore we usually feed them pretty well until they are well matured.

If you have good, healthy geese and succeed in getting your goslings hatched and started to growing once, they are almost sure to live. For the past few years we have been breeding on a small scale the Embdens, and while I have had poor success with them, it was no fault of the geese, neither was it my own. The first year I got the old trio it was April when they arrived and I got only a few eggs from them that year, and succeeded in raising two goslings. The second year I had them my gander got a hole under his tongue and as he could not eat well in this condition, he became thin in flesh and proved almost worthless as a breeder, practically none of his eggs being fertile. I raised only two goslings that year, though my geese laid quite well. Then, last year, I was in need of a couple of new ganders and sent to Illinois for them. I ordered them about February, but, to my disappointment, the breeder held my order to the last of March and I could not get him to ship sooner. The result was I had a lot of eggs laid early that were not fertilized. I succeeded in hatching four later ones, but lost two of them by a weasel. This year my geese laid splendidly, but fate seemed against me and I had about twenty-five early eggs that I could not get anything to set them under. I was compelled to keep them from four to five weeks and when I set them I knew they would hatch poorly as goose eggs will not stand to be kept long. But what was I to do? I had no hens to set them under and could not get any. I did the best I could under the circumstances but was too late as I lost nearly all those eggs. In fact, I don't

think any of them hatched. I have had better success with my later hatches and have a nice little flock of them now raised. I lost a few, that were with chicken hens, from lice. These were fairly eaten up before I knew what ailed them. They would get poor in flesh, weak, and finally die. I examined them closely one day and found a few lice on them. I did not see many as they are very hard to see on ducks or geese. I then examined the hen they were with and found she was lousy. I then went after the lice in earnest and succeeded in getting rid of them after I had lost a few goslings. However, it taught me a good lesson and hereafter I will be on the lookout for lice on my goslings. When goslings are first hatched they should be taken from under the hen or goose as soon as dry for fear of being trampled. For their first feed, stale bread soaked in milk and squeezed out middling dry is as good a feed as you can give them. You can gradually work them onto a mash and most any mash that is good for growing chicks or ducks is relished by the goslings. A good mash is two parts bran, one part middlings, one part cornmeal, one part beef scrap and one-half part fine sand. They are not hard to suit and you can change the variety of their feed as you may see fit. In fact, they will do well on stale bread alone.

We saw a fine flock of young Africans this summer that were well feathered, which, their owner said, were never fed anything but stale bread. They were a dandy bunch and in perfect health. In fact, my own goslings have had little else but stale bread. It is not a very expensive feed and is easily prepared. We had an old goose hatch, from five eggs, three goslings about July 10. They have been the least bother of anything we ever had in the poultry line. We throw feed to them three times a day, drive them into the barn at night, and that is strictly all the attention they have ever received. They have grown very fast and are now feathered out at about six weeks old. In fact, we never had anything grow as rapidly as goslings. They shoot up like mushrooms.

They should have plenty of pasture from the very first, but care should be taken not to get them chilled by being out in cold rains or during a cold snap.

The old geese must not be kept too fat or they will be worthless as breeders. Feed moderately through the breeding season and furnish plenty of pasture. Geese will live to be very old and still be profitable. In fact, geese are not considered at their best till after their second year. They must be mated in small numbers. About two geese to one gander in the Toulouse, Embden and African varieties will usually give good results. Some breeders give more, while many mate in pairs.

The Chinese will take care of more and often five or six geese are mated with one gander with good results. J. C. Clipp says, in Poultry, that inbreeding is one of the greatest drawbacks in breeding geese, and I believe Mr. Clipp is right. Geese should not be inbred and if you want the best and healthiest goslings, don't do it. Geese breed very true to shape and color; truer than any other fowls, unless it is turkeys. You seldom have a cull except a wry-tailed or crooked wing one and these should not be used or sold for breeding purposes.

We pick our geese once each year just before moulting time, which is in June. I usually pull an old stocking over their heads while picking so they will not bite you, as they have good "nippers" and know how to use them, too. Some people pick them oftener, but it keeps them in a very ragged condition and I dislike to see it. If you don't keep geese give them a trial. A low, swampy pasture will keep them at very little expense and you will find them as profitable as any fowl you own. They enjoy a swimming pool, but can be raised very well without it. Geese deserve to be and will be more popular than they are today. They cost less to keep than any chicken you own. If you are so situated that you can keep a few good, pure-bred geese, just give them a trial and you will agree with me that they are easy keepers and good investments.

The Teachings of Long Ago

Some of the Advice Given Forty Years Ago Was Not So Bad After All

By MICHAEL K. BOYER

GREAT strides have been made in poultry culture during the past forty years. What then was considered a second-rate adjunct to the farm has now become an exclusive business, and of such importance that it has, in commercial wealth, outdistanced many industries.

According to the United States Department of Agriculture, the hen crop has reached some \$500,000,000 a year, enough, as one journal puts it, to build two Panama canals.

Another writer says the income from the faithful hen is sufficient to buy two pairs of shoes for every man, woman and child of this nation; it would buy out the Pennsylvania railroad system with its 10,000 miles of track; it would add 100 battleships to our navy every year; it would give 2,000,000 boys and girls a college education, paying all their expenses.

There seemed to be a question some forty years ago, whether it was worth while to bother with

hens. Should anyone have entertained the idea of making poultry culture a business, he would have been branded a fool, a fit subject for an insane asylum.

In 1897, H. W. Collingwood said: "The average cow weighs 130 times as much as the average hen, and yet all the milch cows in the country have a total value of but \$263,955,545. Mrs. Hen in one year will earn enough to buy every cow, and put the entire tobacco crop in her pocket as well. She could pay out of her last year's earnings for all the tea and coffee imported in one year, and all the petroleum products, and have enough left to buy all the tobacco grown in 1896." If the standing of the poultry business was that good fifteen years ago, it can readily be imagined what it is today.

There seems to be an impression that the poultry instructors of forty or more years ago were not practical. In this a great injustice is done them. True, much of their knowledge was based on

theory, but then there is a good bit of theory still afloat.

For example, here are a few selections made from old journals, and which are interesting:

"Exchange cocks with some one at a distance every year, so that there shall be no breeding akin. No one thing is so important to the thrift of the fowls."

Wonder how that advice would set with our present-day poultrymen? "Exchanging cocks" is about on par with exchanging eggs at the country grocery for goods. Today poultrymen buy their male birds and generally pay a big price for them, knowing that a good male adds twice the value to a flock.

"Another thing very necessary is to have poultry always kept dry. To secure freedom from dampness, have the poultry run on well-drained land.

"A frequent cause of wet is, however, the construction of the fowl house in such a way that the surface water after heavy rains, and the dripping

NOTE.—This Chart will be published each Month in The Feather during the year. Keep a correct record of your birds each month.

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The Albemarle Poultry Association, Inc., will hold its third annual show at Charlottesville, Va., November 6, 7 and 8, 1912, in the New Marathon Garage. Mr. A. E. Warner will judge the show. Write for premium list to N. T. Wingfield, Secretary and Superintendent, Charlottesville, Va.

The outlook for a most successful show at the State armory in Geneva, N. Y., to be given by the Ontario Poultry Association, is very bright. Among the specials offered are a sweepstakes prize of \$50 in gold on poultry, also a sweepstakes prize of \$25 in gold on pigeons. Write for premium list and particulars to H. W. Closs, Canandaigua, N. Y., Secretary.

Every party interested in Columbian Plymouth Rocks is respectfully requested to send his application for membership to the secretary. Membership fee, \$1.

A copy of the official report of the proceedings of the meeting, including discussions, etc., sent free to anyone upon request. D. MONROE GREEN, Waterville, N. Y. Secretary.

The second annual show of the Falls Church Poultry Association will be held December 3, 4 and 5. A. H. Barbor, president; E. L. McNair, vice president, and S. E. Hutton, secretary and treasurer, have been working hard to make this show a good one. The first show of the association was held last year and was successful. The officers this year are arranging a bigger premium list and will give more awards than last year.

Production of Poultry and Eggs on Farms—Census Statistics by Geographic Divisions and States for 1909.

A preliminary statement of the general results of the Thirteenth Census relative to the number of farms reporting the raising of poultry and production of eggs, together with the number of fowls and dozens of eggs produced, and the value thereof, in 1909, has been issued by Director E. Dana Durand, of the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce and Labor. It was prepared under the direction of Le Grand Powers, chief statistician, and John Lee Coulter, expert special agent, for agriculture.

Further analysis of the returns may result in slight modifications of the totals here presented before final publication, but it is not expected that they will affect materially the figures given herein. A statement showing the number and value of fowls on farms at the time the census was taken (April 15, 1910) has already been issued. Special attention is called to the fact that the present summary relates only to poultry and eggs produced on farms, as no enumeration was provided by law for cities, towns, or villages.

The total number of farms reporting fowls raised in 1909 was 5,655,754, or 88.9 per cent of all farms in the United States, and the number of such fowls was 488,468,354 or an average of 86.4 fowls per farm. No report was published in 1900 showing the number of farms reporting or the number of fowls raised in 1899, but the total value was given as \$136,830,152, as against a value in 1909 of \$202,506,272. It will thus be seen that the value of poultry produced in one year shows an increase during the decade of over \$65,500,000, or 48 per cent.

The last census shows that in 1909 there were produced in the United

States 1,591,311,371 dozen eggs, valued at \$306,688,960. The production in 1899 was 1,293,662,433 dozen eggs, and the value \$144,240,541. While the production of eggs during the ten years increased but 23 per cent, the value more than doubled, the exact amount of gain being \$162,448,419, or 112.6 per cent.

Of the nine main geographic divisions into which the census divides the country, the East and West North Central Divisions combined reported over 46.3 per cent of all poultry, and 52.7 per cent of the eggs produced in 1909. The latter division ranks first, with a total of 123,853,667 fowls raised, having a value of \$52,337,180. The eggs produced in this division amounted to 446,336,192 dozen, valued at \$77,493,327. The average value per fowl was 42 cents, and the average value per dozen of eggs was 17 cents.

The East North Central Division raised 102,496,192 fowls in 1909, valued at \$47,972,887. Average value per fowl was 47 cents. During the same year 392,304,118 dozen eggs were produced, with a total value of \$75,237,900, or an average value per dozen of 19 cents.

The three Southern divisions, comprising the South Atlantic, and the East and the West South Central, together reported over 39 per cent of all poultry raised in 1909.

Of these the South Atlantic produced the greatest number, 70,792,154, having a total value of \$24,413,963, or an average of 35 cents per fowl. In the same year there were produced in this division, 136,073,767 dozen eggs, with a total value of \$26,545,679, or an average of 20 cents per dozen.

The West South Central Division is fifth in rank in the production of poultry and third in that of eggs, but the Middle Atlantic Division reports a higher total value of eggs than any of the Southern divisions. In the former the number of fowls raised was 59,066,127, valued at \$17,681,375. The eggs produced amounted to 165,557,865 dozen, and the value to \$26,395,765. The average value per fowl was 30 cents, and of eggs, 16 cents per dozen.

The poultry production in the Middle Atlantic Division, 36,313,031 fowls, was valued at \$21,527,077, or an average of 59 cents per fowl; and the 161,921,598 dozen eggs produced were valued at \$37,507,552, or an average of 23 cents per dozen.

Seven States in the country raised over 20,000,000 fowls in 1909, namely: Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Texas, Kansas, Ohio, and Indiana; their combined production comprising over 39 per cent of the poultry produced in the United States. Only four States, however, reported a production of over 100,000,000 dozen eggs: Missouri, Iowa, Ohio and Illinois, their combined product representing over 26 per cent of the total.

Illinois raised 32,352,888 fowls in 1909, with a total value of \$15,404,028, an average of 48 cents per fowl.

The production of eggs amounted to 100,119,418 dozen, valued at \$18,940,454, an average value of 19 cents per dozen.

The production of poultry in Missouri amounted to 31,913,210 fowls, valued at \$14,572,585, or an average of 46 cents per fowl. This State reported a production of 111,816,693 dozen eggs, having a total value of \$19,345,602, or an average value of 17 cents per dozen.

Iowa, with a production of 29,990,147 fowls, ranks third among the States. The total value of its poultry was \$13,914,985, or an average of 46 cents per fowl. A total of 109,760,487 dozen eggs were produced in 1909, valued at \$19,235,600, or an average of 18 cents per dozen.

The 23,423,005 fowls raised in Ohio were valued at \$10,997,633, the average value per fowl amounting to 47 cents.

This State produced 100,889,599 dozen eggs, having a total value of \$19,748,658, or an average value of 20 cents per dozen.



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TIMELY TOPICS

By M. PLUMMER McCULLOUGH.

Well, it will be a little relief now to get a little more of real poultry writing in the journals and not so much of "Rule 17."

D. E. Hale has a splendid article in R. P. J. on "Egg Type of the Domestic Hen." Mr. Hale has the views of a number of breeders expressed who breed "bred to lay" stock, and every one of them admit that the rather long bodied hen will beat her short bodied sister in the production of eggs. Mr. J. C. Dinsmore, a breeder of bred-to-lay White Wyandottes, writes in part as follows: "Concerning the egg type of fowl, my experiments have proven to my satisfaction that in nine cases out of ten the bird with length and depth of body is the best layer. Next comes the bird with either length or depth, but the longer bodied bird will outlay the bird shorter but deeper, while any of them will, in 99 cases out of 100, outlay the type called for by the Standard."

Mr. R. A. Richardson, another White Wyandotte breeder, writes: "There is no question in my mind that the White Wyandotte is going to lose its popularity unless this craze for short bodies is stopped. I have never seen a short, blocky specimen make a good egg record. I do not state this merely as an opinion, but as something that I know after thirteen years of trap nest breeding. It has been impossible by trap nest breeding to keep my strain blocky and good layers at the same time. In spite of my efforts my birds have lengthened out in body."

Mr. J. W. Parks, who has been breeding bred-to-lay Barred Rocks ever since I heard of him, which, by the way, is some years, has an interesting letter in Mr. Hale's article. Mr. Parks writes: "You know I have been a great advocate for type for layers. Now, I do not claim that there is a positive egg type, but I do claim and know from actual experience and observation that a certain type of bird as a whole will lay more eggs than the birds of the opposite type. The first is the hen with long, deep body and well spread legs. She has a distinct advantage over her sister with the short, round body. I have some evidence that looks both encouraging and discouraging; that is, it begins to look as if in addition to being long and deep, the best layers are those that carry their tails the highest. This, of course, we have discouraged in our American varieties on account of the Standard. I also note that as a rule the more active the male bird the higher he carries his tail, and have you ever noticed that when occasionally you find a squirrel tail in your flock it belongs to one of those big mouthed fellows that just appears to be running over with vigor?"

Mr. Raugh, a neighbor of Mr. Parks, who is a breeder of White Leghorns, writes: "Taking what White Leghorns I have, as a whole, I can not help but see that my highest tailed birds are my best layers."

Now, friends, what do you think of this evidence? There are a number of illustrations of big egg-record hens and nearly all are long bodied and high tailed birds. Certainly Mr. Parks would not make such a statement regarding high tails unless he thinks it is absolutely true. The fact of the matter is, friends, I believe these

gentlemen have told a lot of truth and the Standard, as it is today, is not doing justice to many breeds. We pay too much attention to exhibition qualities and not near enough to utility qualities. Just while we are mentioning this matter I was looking through the August number of Poultry and on page 11 is an illustration of a Barred Rock hen that has an egg record of 200 eggs. Poultry does not tell us how long it took this hen to produce these 200 eggs, whether in one year or three years, but I believe it means a year's record. In this hen we could not help but notice that she had a long, deep body and carried her tail very high. She is nothing great as far as "bar-ring" goes, but she has a body shaped for laying eggs, which is equally important. It is well for us to give such matters more careful attention and not put all our efforts on fuss and feathers to the detriment of our breeds.

Mr. O. F. Sampson, who conducts a Utility Department for The Poultry Times, has a few Duck suggestions in the August number of that paper, in which he writes: "The writer has only had personal experience with Indian Runners, but if other ducks are similar eaters, there never was a greater misstatement made than the old fallacy that the duck is an 'awful eater.' A pen of Indian Runners, full grown, will eat less in a week than the same number of Leghorn hens will eat in four days." Well, we hardly agree with Mr. Sampson along this line. I

don't believe that Indian Runner Ducks will eat as much less than Leghorn hens as he estimates. It is true that Indian Runners are not as heavy eaters as the larger varieties of ducks, but still they can not live near as cheap as some writers claim. At least they will not produce as great a profit if they are skimped on the feed. There are others who have had experience with Indian Runner ducks. In the same number of this Journal a certain poultry farm has an article on Indian Runners, in which they say: "While they consume more feed than hens, they lay better in proportion." This does not "nick" with Mr. Sampson's statement, but we believe it is more correct. It is possible that Mr. Sampson's ducks are unusual light eaters, but that is not saying that all Indian Runners are.

John H. Robinson, editor of Farm Poultry, has a few remarks in that Journal that I wish to repeat here. Speaking of the new Standard, Mr. Robinson says: "One of the prominent faults in the old edition not corrected in the new is that the different varieties of the same breed are not reproduced on the same scale, and no effort seems to have been made to reproduce the different breeds on a scale that would give a fair impression of relative size. The Silver Pencilled Rock female is only about two-thirds the size of the others. [Possibly she is not fully developed and was fed little animal food—McCullough.] The Wyandottes generally are very much larger than the Rocks and the Brahmas smaller than either. To apply Standard ideals to judging some of the varieties would doubtless precipitate a riot. There is improvement, but the net gain seems a most insignificant result of all the uproar and delay and expense."

Mr. Robinson is certainly right in his views and I want to add that the Standard even yet is far from being what we would have it. It seems we have been having a pile of trouble in getting out standards ever since they have been having them illustrated. Why they always get mixed up in the sizes of the different varieties of the same breed I don't know. This was also noticeable in the 1905 edition, particularly in Dark Brahmas. We hope we will have some day a Standard which will at least deserve the name it carries.

D. Lincoln Orr says he will resign from the A. P. A. if "Rule 17" is adopted. We will know all about it by the time this is in print, but we hope Mr. Orr will be saved the bother of sending in his resignation. We also learn from J. H. Drevenstedt, in American Poultry World, that Link Orr is going to quite Columbian Wyandottes and take up White Faverolles. Gee, Link changes about as often as Aug. D. Arnold. We hope both gentlemen profit by each change.

Mr. Drevenstedt has a few lines in A. P. W. regarding Rhode Island Whites that is good, common sense, to say the least. The Rhode Island Whites are claimed to be a result of

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Gentlemen—I send you herewith 50c (stamps accepted) for which kindly send me, carriage prepaid, one copy of Lewis Wright's "New Book of Poultry." It is understood I may examine this work five days, and if I do not wish to keep it I agree to notify you and hold subject to your order, and you are to refund my money. If I decide to keep it I agree to pay the balance of \$8 in monthly installments of \$1 each until settled in full.

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a White Wyandotte, White Cochin and Rose Comb White Leghorn cross and they resemble the Rhode Island Red in shape. "Drev," says: "The breeders of Rhode Island Whites believe they have a new breed of sufficient merit and distinctive type, one that should be admitted to the American Standard of Perfection. Personally we have only the kindest feeling for those who originated a new breed of merit, but for the A. P. A. to let down the bars and admit Rose Comb and Single Comb Rhode Island Whites to the Standard will create a market for thousands of White Plymouth Rock and White Wyandotte culls if they resemble the Rhode Island Whites in type." Mr. Drevenstedt is exactly right and the A. P. A. should draw the line when it comes to admitting new varieties which resemble so much varieties that are now in the Standard as the Rhode Island Whites. Personally I have never heard of only the Rose Comb Rhode Island Whites and did not know there was a Single Comb variety, as "Drev," mentioned. However, I am opposed to having them admitted to the Standard. I saw a large display of them last winter at a show and I fail to see where they are any more beautiful than either the White Rocks or Wyandottes and I don't believe they will be any more profitable, either.

Judge W. H. Card has an article in American Poultry Advocate in which he pays high respect to the American Dominique and Black Javas. Mr. Card says: "These two breeds are worthy of study if for no other reason than that they were important factors in the make-up of the Barred Plymouth Rock. Yet their merits are all their own and they should not be made to play second fiddle to any other breed, whether of foreign importation or American breed." Mr. Card holds pretty much the same view as the writer. We have a number of times mentioned the good qualities of the Dominiques, Javas and other neglected varieties to your readers and I believe if some one would take them up and push them there is no reason why they will not take much better than some of the newer varieties. We dislike to see such good old breeds held in the background simply because they have not been pushed as have the newer varieties, and surely there will be some one who will look after these old breeds. If not, we shall be compelled to come to their rescue ourselves.

We have just received a copy of Poultry Ideas and wish to say it is a bright, newsy little paper. Mr. J. C. Clipp, in writing of Bronze Turkeys in this journal, says: "Only last winter I saw a very prominent judge scoring a class of Bronze cockerels. His scores run from 95½ to 97 points, when in reality the very best cockerel in the show would not go over 93 points." Some more of your score card judging by a "prominent" judge. Now, if these Bronze cockerels had been sold at their score card value, do you suppose the buyer would get his money's worth? Well, I don't think he would; and the sooner all shows abandon the score card system, in its present form at least, the better for all exhibitors and buyers as well.

In R. P. J. Thomas F. Rigg writes: "Today the Wyandotte is being ruined by the demand for a compact, round fowl with 'curves.' The head and tail of the exhibition Wyandottes are being brought so close together that no room is left for the placing of the egg machine within the narrow confine.

It is a serious mistake. We shall all awaken to this fact some day when it is too late. Then we shall be engaged in the task of bringing the Wyandottes back." It is a fact that many breeds have been injured by the unreasonable demands of the Standard. The Cochins were almost put out of existence. Today they are bred only by a few fanciers. The Brahmas are bred too much on the Cochin type to be a good utility fowl today, and, as Mr. Rigg says, the Wyandottes are now the sufferers. This kind of work will prove disastrous in the end and it is high time that the A. P. A. pay a little more attention to utility and not make it all "fancy," to the detriment of some of our best breeds.

Why is it that the Silver Pencilled Wyandottes and Silver Pencilled Plymouth Rocks are so quiet? We hear very little of them. Very seldom see them advertised and very often do not see them in any of our shows. Have they taken a back seat? Both are beautiful varieties when properly bred, but it seems as if they are not in it today. Surely we need to get busy in "bringing back" some of the varieties we have in the Standard today, instead of always trying to make new ones to shove off on the poor American public.

The Pulaski Fair Association, of Pulaski, Pa., have arranged to have a large poultry exhibit in connection with their fair this year. Besides the poultry exhibit they will have large exhibits of horses, cattle, sheep and swine. It will pay our readers who are in the western part of the State to visit this fair and send to the secretary for premium list.

When I was writing the above paragraph my wife arrived home from town and the first thing she said when she came in was to inquire what I had been doing. I said: "What do you suppose?" She replied: "You have been using Zenoleum, for I can tell by the smell." She guessed it right, for I had been going over the chicken house walls and roost and gave them a thorough spraying with Zenoleum and I wish to say right here that I think it a great thing and I fully recommend it in every way.

Miller Purvis, of Poultry, has an article on "Leghorns as Fliers" in a recent number of that excellent journal, that we think will bear reprinting in part. Editor Purvis says: "We have about one and one-half acres fenced in around the young orchard and among the trees we raise our garden. Around this lot is a fence made of 26-inch wire fencing, which is high enough to keep rabbits out. All this summer the fifty Leghorn hens we kept this season have had their liberty at least four days in the week. Yet they never ventured over the garden fence. Young trees to form a wind break are set along this fence and the hens wallow in their shade during the hot part of the day, but that fence holds them as well as if it were eight feet high. We had planned to put four feet on top of this netting, but never got time, and the hens have behaved so nicely that we don't think we shall need it in this place now. These hens are in the best of health and have been laying for six months as well as any hens ever did; yet they have never got over this 26-inch fence, although just beyond it lies a choice selection of garden truck, strawberries, etc., that hens are supposed to be particularly fond of. This is a new experience with us as far as Leghorns are concerned. Since we broke up our breeding pens we have allowed the Leghorns

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HOUDANS

HOUDANS—NOTHING BUT HOUDANS. Eggs, \$2 per 15, from the largest Houdan breeder in Colorado—three yards. C. G. Walton, Ni Wot, Colo.

and Barred Plymouth Rocks to run together and have not been very much surprised that the Barred Rocks did not get over the fence, as they are easily controlled, but the Leghorns have puzzled us. We have about come to the conclusion that this condition is a matter of training. Some of the very hens that have been held back by this low fence were flying over a six-foot fence last spring before we brought them from town to the ranch. Last Spring we built our breeding pens on a new plan to us. We made them long and but six feet wide, as the breeding pens were made up of small numbers—from six to fifteen birds in a pen. The sides of these pens were made of three-foot poultry netting and covered over the top with six-foot netting. This gave plenty of head room for the fowls and those enclosed runs were cheaper than those of high fences would have been. During the breeding season they were kept in those pens almost continuously and soon learned that they could not fly out of them because of the netting on top. Not being given to reasoning, these hens have come to believe that a fence is insurmountable, no matter how low it is, and do not try to fly over the 26-inch fence. I am led to this conclusion by the fact that when, two or three times, a hen would wander into the garden through a gate, she would allow herself to be caught before she would try to fly over the low fence.

"We have concluded to keep these hens in a notion of staying behind a fence. Every few days we keep them in the pens all day, and we believe we can prevent them from learning that a low fence may be got over. If this continues to work we have learned how to save a lot of work and money, as we can build the low covered runs much cheaper than we can build a high fence. Anyone that will go to the trouble of building low covered runs, such as we have used this year, can soon solve the problem of keeping fowls in subjection, and we consider this is one of the most money saving things we have ever learned about the habits of fowls."

This will be good news to any of our readers who have trouble confining their Leghorns or any other variety of the smaller breeds, for that matter.

We believe it will work. I remember a number of years ago I kept a pen of four Barred Rock hens and a cockerel enclosed in a small yard, which was surrounded by a two-foot fence. The cockerel was a tall fellow that could easily look over the fence, but it was only a few times in the entire season that I had them get over it. It is well to remember Editor Purvis' experience and give it a trial when building your next yard for Leghorns.

The poultry editor of the Practical Farmer did not get as many goose eggs last spring as he wanted, owing to the fact that he kept over three ganders that he thought were geese. He is now trying to tell his readers how to distinguish the goose from the gander.

We hear much about poultry fakers and faking poultry at the exhibitions, but we seldom hear of a remedy for same. If the poultry associations would have on their entry blanks a statement declaring that not one of the birds that is entered on said list has been faked in any way and compel the exhibitors to sign these or not exhibit, I believe we could do away with at least a great deal of the howl about faking.

I. K. Felch, one of our veteran poultry judges and breeders, has an excellent article in R. P. J. on growing exhibition stock. Mr. Felch says it is perfectly legitimate to remove off-colored feathers, such as a flecked or ticked feather in a white variety, or a white-tipped feather in a black variety. These feathers, Mr. Felch says, will as a rule come in the right color and he thinks it perfectly right to remove them. Mr. Felch also states: "I once had a Barred Plymouth Rock cockerel whose earlobes were half white. I chloroformed him and skinned the lobes. He never begot a chick with white earlobes. This led me to believe that many defects are not transmissible and if these things are not hereditary it is permissible to remove them."

We well remember a couple of years ago that I cut the head off of one of the very best White Rock Cockerels I ever owned, simply because he had white lobes. Possibly I was foolish for doing it, but I thought I was doing right and I am not sorry I did it yet.

Gee, if the old A. P. A. would catch some of the young fellows skinning earlobes of their birds today she would pull them over the coals right, wouldn't she? He would be kicked out sure and the poultry journals would have page after page about "Wrongful Practices," etc.

It is discouraging for a judge to have some one continually finding fault with him, especially if he is doing the best he can. Judge Geo. D. Holden, ex-president of the A. P. A., in an address to the association in 1909 on "Poultry Judging," said: "If you ever expect a judge in the field to be a man who will never make a mistake you will never see that man, or if there is a judge in the field who says by the score card he can score a bird or a class of birds always the same, just let me tell you that man is either violating the laws of truth or he don't know what he really can do, because there is no man living that can do it. There is no man living that can always score a bird the same. Judges are human, the same as other men, and they will make mistakes."

Friends, there is lots of truth in the above. Mr. Holden is a good judge himself and he is good authority, so let us remember his words.

When Hens Lays Eggs

What time o' day
Does a hen lay?

That question has puzzled poultry fanciers for unnumbered decades, but now, it seems, it has been satisfactorily solved by a woman. She is Mrs. Sarah Erickson, of Falconer, N. Y. Having kept chickens for 37 years, she believes she qualifies as an expert in this line of effort.

"I have worked out the problem," she declares. "By using marked leg-bands, trap nests and alarm clocks attached to the nests I have determined that a hen lays an egg at the same hour, minute and second that she was born, or, rather, hatched. For instance, if the hen happened to be able to peck its way through its shell at 7:43 a. m., she will lay an egg at precisely 7:43 a. m. And she will do this without variation every time she is inclined to lay. I have kept close, systematic watch on my hens for five years, and I have never known the rule to fail." —New York Press,

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Is Cooperation a Restraint of Trade? Does the Produce Trade Suffer or Gain by the Idea?

By O. F. SAMPSON

Probably no one thing that deals directly with the welfare of trade, or directly with the production and consumption of foods, has caused more excitement and interest in a brief period of time than the cooperative idea. The reasons are many and important. Any system or idea that shifts or changes the trade conditions of our products, or seriously interferes with present and long practiced ways of handling our food products must be taken seriously. So long as the new ways do not seriously interfere with older systems in their workings no efforts are made to discourage them. But so soon as new systems of trade open and show signs of handicapping those in use, or are in opposition to people interested in such systems, trouble comes.

These facts seem to be showing themselves in our cooperative movement. Two years ago the efforts of cooperation were scarcely considered; but things have been done since then that have caused those directly or indirectly interested in the old system of trading in food supplies from the farm, dairy and poultry plants of our country to sit up with a start and take notice. The producers and consumers of these food supplies never considered that a "trust" in those foods existed. In a pure sense of the word as we use it, we may say there has never been a trust. But under the system we have used for years results have practically amounted to the same as in cases where we find "Sugar Trusts," "Milk Trusts," "Meat Trusts," etc. In no case do I know of the producer of farm, dairy or poultry products being able, in even a slight way, to fix the price of his product in only local cases. Nor does the consumer, whose money pays for the goods, have any chance to say what he will pay for any of these foods. The prices are made by commission men, middle men and dealers, who have in many cases no money at all invested in the goods. The producer is offered certain arbitrary prices quoted in exchange for his product, and the consumer is asked to pay a much larger price for the same goods days or weeks afterward, and he may take the produce or leave it. It will take a pretty good judge or lawyer to cipher out the difference between these conditions and results and those of trusts.

Cooperation will remedy these conditions in several ways. First, it will place the dealing of these products between the two most interested parties, producer and consumer; and it will leave out in most instances the useless intermediate parties and their increased cost. While in a proportionate number of cases a third party may be necessary to a deal, the necessity for six to twelve of these parties is useless and costly.

Not only are several middle men in many cases useless and costly, but they hold prices on both ends in their power. This is the most lamentable part of it—the fixing of prices on goods honest right in. The producer invests they have no investment or other millions of dollars in the industry and the consumer is asked to pay all the bills, including the extra expense of all unnecessary handling by outside parties. These facts have been the en-

couragement of the cooperative idea and are pretty strong arguments.

Many people believe the middleman a necessity. I am not arguing against *any middle man*, but the *many middle men*. Some today believe the cooperative system a "restriction against trade." The object of this article is to consider this proposition from both sides quite carefully. As in all questions the writer believes this subject has two sides, and while our interests are in the poultry industry we propose to look at both sides of the matter. I doubt also if this publication at this time desires to take any direct stand on either side of the question, however strong the arguments may be just now. I believe a test of the systems the best argument for or against their continuance, and if the cooperative system stands the test every fair-minded person, regardless of his interest, should accept its ability to serve the people.

At present the writer desires to consider the claim that cooperation will restrain trade. Unfortunately we have little from our courts to aid us in deciding this question. Our courts have so far, I believe, only said, through the anti-trust law, two things of bearing on our subject. That there must not be "undue restraint of trade through contracts, combinations, or conspiracies." Second, "there must be no monopolies, or attempts to create monopolies." So far as I have learned our anti-trust laws are generally expressed in above conditions. Whatever other laws we may have that may be applied to restrain trade, or to hinder restraint of trade, I am not familiar with, nor do I believe many of our lawyers are posted upon them. Laws that relate to contracts and individual dealings are quite out of consideration.

Wherein the producer or consumer by direct dealing will in any way come under the above anti-trust rulings is a pretty hard stretch to include. Possibly some law of contract would cover the conditions, but that would in no way come under the above anti-trust decision. As few, if any, cooperative associations have ever been incorporated under any of our laws, they can hardly be classed as monopolies, combinations or conspirators. Hence they must be classed simply as individuals, or body of individuals dealing with other individuals, whether under contract or not. So far as our laws relate and so long as both sides are satisfied in the business, there are few chances of actions at law.

How will cooperation restrict trade? There are three ways of doing a business—by direct dealings; by one or more intermediate or middle men, and by Government regulation. The two former ones we are familiar with, while the latter one is of a Socialistic order. Not a few people seem to think all produce should be handled either wholly upon a competitive basis, or else competition should not enter into the deal at all. Whichever case is used in handling produce we may expect to find this fact standing out in bold prominence—whoever supervises the sales and handling of our product fixes the price. In a sense this may be Socialism, because whoever fixes prices determines, in a measure, when the product should be distributed. In this

sense, whoever supervises the trade may restrict it to a greater or less extent.

All Government is to a degree a restriction of trade and competition, and on this theory all competition needs honest restrictions. But we don't need a competition that will regulate or control prices, locally or in general. If eggs are scarce in Iowa (for example) competition in New York should not fix the price at 20 cents per dozen when they are worth 50 cents per dozen in Iowa. There should be some way for the producers in New York to furnish eggs to the Iowa people direct as possible, and the 30 cents per dozen difference of prices should be divided between producer and consumer, less the cost of transportation and other necessary expenses. How can this trade be restricting? Of course, the above is simply an imaginary case, yet actually this difference and greater ones are occurring every week in certain seasons of the year in several places. Whether trade restrictions could produce worse conditions or not I doubt. I believe direct dealing under some cooperative system would remedy such evils.

The strongest argument for our present system of several intermediaries handling produce is that it gives a broader market and a storage of the produce until needed by the consumer. I believe statistics will not bear out this argument, but even if it is true, what does it prove? The middleman doesn't hold the goods in any greater degree than the producer, as the produce is kept in cold storage warehouses. While warehouses may be filled to the utmost, thousands of families suffer for lack of this produce, and thousands of others would use much more if prices were not *double what the producer receives* when the consumer bought. As a fact, I believe our produce supply is less than the normal demand at all times in our country, and by normal demand I mean what would be bought if the people who need it could buy it within their means. Cooperation covers this condition better than any system yet tried.

If further proof is needed along this line, let me refer to the "open market" idea now used in many American cities, and giving much better satisfaction to both consumer and producer than the store or commission system. In some cities the open market has been in practice for nearly fifty years, and is more satisfactory today than ever. It gives direct sales of produce in better condition and a more satisfactory manner than any system tried, and at least a score of our larger cities have set apart public stalls, space, etc., for this selling, and in several cities officials are paid to attend to the business.

Along this line of effort for cooperation the International Utility Poultry Association was organized. It is desired to open local markets in cities where the members may sell poultry produce direct to the consumer himself or by a representative. Fruit organizations, etc., have been thus organized and are a success, and if rightly handled, the above idea is practical. Mr. F. A. Kuhn, Williamsville, N. Y., is secretary-treasurer of the organization and has just moved from Buffalo to his new home to organize the first local branch. I am informed that a branch is to be started soon near New York City by this association also.

Whether this work is done by an organization or by city government, or both, is quite immaterial, so long as the markets are open for consumers and producers to deal direct with each other. There is a world-wide field and the producer and consumer should be content to stand some sacrifice to establish a system.

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Vermin Extermination

BY LYNN C. TOWNSEND

Many poultrymen make it a rule to fight vermin very industriously during the summer months, but when winter rolls around they seem to think that all the lice have gone visiting. They haven't; and right here is where many people make the worst mistake. They clean up spasmodically, and then when they do clean up it is impossible to do it as it should be done.

The red mite is one of the worst enemies of the poultryman. During real cold weather they will not breed, but when it warms up a little, they breed in such numbers that if they are given a little headway, it is almost impossible to dislodge them. These mites do not live on the body of the hen, but make their home in the nests, roosts and cracks around the dropping board. They will suck the life-blood from your birds and it will be almost impossible to trace them.

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." This is as true in the poultry business as in any other. To prevent lice and mites from getting a foothold in your poultry house, build it right. Have all the interior fixtures removable. Keep everything as clean as possible, for lice and mites will breed much better in dirty and filthy surroundings than where all is light and clean. To exterminate all kinds of vermin there is nothing better than kerosene oil. Spray it into every crack and crevice in the house. Spraying is always much better than application with a brush, for it will penetrate farther and more thorough; so therefore when using liquids, always work with a sprayer in preference to a brush.

The perches and nest boxes should always receive a "double dose" when possible. Whitewash always gives a house a neat appearance and at the same time destroys vermin. Kerosene oil is good at all times, and I make it a practice to paint the roosts of my houses with it at least once a week. Some people also advocate painting the roosts and dropping boards with tar. However, my favorite perch disinfectant is one composed of one part of crude carbolic acid added to three parts of kerosene oil. I think that this will answer every purpose and give universal satisfaction.

Attention should also be given to head and body lice, which do much toward stunting the growth of the young chicks. A flock of hens infested with body lice will lay only half the number of eggs produced by a healthy flock, and will require twice as much feed. Body lice are found on the body only. The usual breeding place is just below the vent, their eggs being fastened to the base of the feather. This is the warmest part of the fowl and supplies the necessary heat for the incubation of the eggs. To destroy body lice, a good insect powder will do the work. A lice killing machine is a good thing, but a home-made one can usually be made from an old barrel. See that the powder is thoroughly sifted through the plumage. Do not stop at one application, but thoroughly dust the hen each week until you find no signs of lice; three or four dustings will usually finish the body lice. To rid a bird of head lice, apply equal parts of sweet oil and kerosene to the feathers on the head and neck. One thorough application will almost always rid your birds of the pest.

I have often found it cheaper and

more satisfactory to make my own lice powder. This can be done at home with but little trouble and expense. The lice powder should be made by the following directions: Take five pounds of plaster paris and mix thoroughly with a liquid mixture composed of one and one-half pints of gasoline and one-half pint of crude carbolic acid. Sift through a window screen upon a piece of paper. Allow to stand in the sun for about two hours until thoroughly dry. Do not place near a stove. Keep the powder in a closed can or jar and apply by means of an ordinary sifter.

Always keep your poultry house light and dry. Lice and sunlight do not agree at all and where there is a great deal of sunlight there will be found but few lice. Provide plenty of dust baths for your birds. If a hen can wallow in dust she will keep reasonably free of lice. Add Persian insect powder or the home-made powder to the dirt in the dust boxes. Carbolate of lime is also good to use in the dust baths, and it is also a good plan to powder this around the floor and walls.

If the lice and mites get a foothold among your young chicks they will make a clean sweep there. When chicks droop and appear sick without any reason, look carefully for the large gray body lice on the heads and necks. Never grease the bodies of little chicks, unless very lightly, for the grease will close up the pores, resulting in death. Lard is always good to grease the heads of the young birds. When you are hatching with hens, if you keep the hen free from lice you will be able to keep the upper hand on the lice on young chicks. One great point in favor of the incubator is that all danger from lice is eliminated if sanitary conditions are practiced.

In conclusion, remember these things: Lice will avoid the sunlight. Do not let the droppings accumulate, as they will provide a breeding place for lice and mites. Use kerosene and lice powder with a free hand; it won't hurt the hens any. If the lice once get a foothold it means continual fighting to the end. So, therefore, keep your houses in the right condition, and by untiring vigilance, especially during the summer months, you can keep free of lice.

Some Rules to Observe

Editor The Feather: It has been thirty-five years since the writer, then a small boy in his teens, entrusted to the mails his first hard-earned savings with an order for eggs for hatching, and during the intervening years many thousands of dollars have been received and sent through the same medium and by express and telegrams. This is only to show the reader that the rules of business that are here given are the ripe fruit of many years of active work and experience in the poultry business. It may as well be stated at the outset that following these rules will not necessarily make any man or woman rich or even moderately well to do, for success is not accumulating dollars and cents, but it is asserted that following them closely will insure a clean conscience and the knowledge that one has done right. Can any man ask more?

Cultivate wisdom. This is very important. Without wisdom or knowledge concerning values of fancy points,

the best intentioned persons will fail to do the right. Once upon a time we exchanged fowls with a young fellow and in return for some really fine specimens sent him, received a crate of culls. Poor fellow! He was almost heartbroken at his great blunder and was only at ease when I assured him that I knew it was only a lack of knowledge that caused the blunder and that I would be only too glad to try and help him to more knowledge and save him from future blunders. The same thing happened years afterward with another breeder and rather extensive advertiser, who proved to be a woman fancier, handling a rather hard breed to breed good specimens and who had never visited the shows or yards of good breeders of her breed and in consequence was not able to judge intelligently of merit in her fowls.

At the present time with the numerous poultry shows, many and low-priced poultry journals, large number of finely illustrated articles of judging, scoring and mating fowls, etc., there is little excuse for one to plead ignorance in matters pertaining to the fancy.

Be just. The second great rule to be observed is just as important as the first. In fact, if there is more weight to be attached to one than the other it is the latter. One may be excusable for a lack of knowledge, but never for a lack of fairness, or, in good old plain English, honesty. We would rather lose two dollars to the honest, ignorant man than one to the smart, dishonest shark. And it is doubly hard to bear when one is beaten in the fancy, for it is usually taken for granted that the fancier is a good, wholesome fellow (or his sister) who is away above such a low thing as robbing his neighbor. It will militate against the possible chance of one getting rich quickly—this following to the letter the Golden Rule—but it will increase wonderfully one's satisfaction in himself whenever he chances to reflect upon himself or his career. And it will undoubtedly take many a thorn out of the crown that all must wear before leaving this old earth.

Cultivate generosity. It has been well said that we only save what we give away, and no class of business men have a better opportunity of giving away values to more lasting purpose than the fancier. It not infrequently happens that the small gift is the first cause of the bringing into existence another fancier who in time may be one of the foremost in the land. And gratitude is rarely lacking from those to whom the helping hand has been given. And the good done years ago may be repeated a dozen or more times and very many, besides the original recipient, will have cause for rejoicing.

It may be only a copy or two of this magazine handed or mailed to some-

one who has never even seen a poultry journal—the loan of a poultry book or an invitation to visit you and talk "chicken" an hour or two some time when you have a little leisure, or any one of a dozen little things that will be the means of brightening the sky and opening the vista for some beclouded fellow mortal. Be generous, it pays.

The above are the foundation corner stones and there is but one more and that is, love the work. Then, whether financial success is realized or not the remuneration received will always be considered ample. There will be real happiness derived from the business for it will give many hours of rest from the cares of life. It will keep the young man or woman ever green and make for the older set a second or rather a perennial youth. And as the years go by there will be no load of cares or misdeeds or wrongs done a brother and sister to weigh down your souls into the low places of earth. The real fancier is always a good fellow, as I said at the outset, and it is hard for him to have a serious fault.

Of course, in the conduct of any business there are many minor rules to be observed. In this there are many. Mention might be made of only a few, such as promptness, courtesy, patience, watchfulness after minor details of every transaction and the determination to have no reasonable unsatisfied customer, and with the birds themselves the determination to be their best friend and with them do good.

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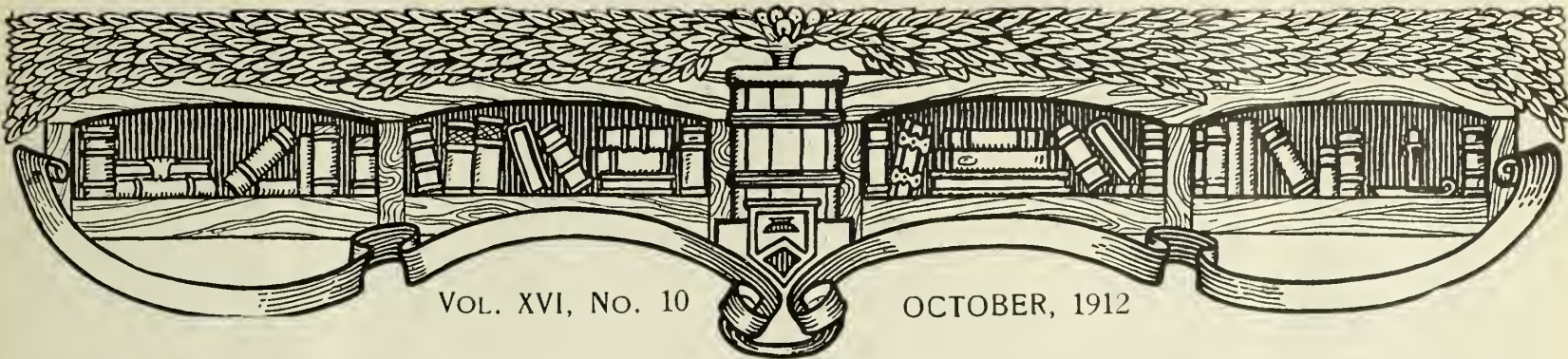
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Editorial Comment

The most desirable of all is better poultry. It can not possibly be of too high a quality. When you stop to consider that poultry sells in our large cities, chickens as low as nine and ten cents in price, and as high as twenty-eight; turkeys from fourteen to thirty-eight cents per pound; ducks and geese from twelve to forty cents per pound, one will readily see the advantage of growing the very best quality of all these and sending them to market in the most finished condition. When we stop to consider the vast space of value between the lower and the higher prices, we can readily understand how those who grow inferiority will lose by so doing, and those who produce the best must gain an immense profit. If it might be possible for everyone who has anything whatever to do with the producing of poultry of any and all kinds to have them of this very high quality, we would never hear a dissenting voice as to the advantages to be gained through the keeping and growing and selling of market poultry. This might also be said of every kind and character of thing produced and sold as an appliance attaching or belonging to the poultry interest.

Facts are facts, and there are no facts better established than that true, standard-bred fowls are best for producing eggs for market, and for market poultry; that high-class, well-bred cattle are the most profitable for the dairy or the market meat business, when bred for these purposes. Those who attempt to make a success of egg production for market, market poultry, dairy products or beef cattle by keeping low-bred stock, have utterly failed in the attempt, while their neighbors, who understand the situation, will prosper by keeping the proper kind of live stock for the purpose intended. These facts are established beyond all doubt, and can not be denied by any one.

A sure sign of depravity is to be constantly knocking.

Any breed or variety selected can be brought to equal efficiency in egg production with others if equal attention is given them along these lines. Do not imagine that you can gather together a promiscuous lot from here and there, and have a large egg field. The only way to gain this in your flock of hens is to give them the same attention as is given to the largest business of our land. There is no one business in the whole world that half equals the egg production of the United States. This being true, it deserves the careful application of the best ability and brain power to bring it to a higher standing, where it should and can be.

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President.
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of October, 1912.
CHAS. W. BLACKWOOD,
Notary Public.
[Seal]
Commission expires May 29, 1916.

It is surprising to notice the increased demand for a better quality of eggs and dressed poultry of all kinds. The finest turkeys sold during January in the large cities from thirty-five to forty cents per pound, paid without a murmur; the best quality of geese almost as high; chickens and ducks from sixteen to twenty-five cents, and the price of fresh-laid eggs, from forty-seven to sixty cents, according to quality. At the same time there was plenty of dressed poultry on the market at from nine to twelve cents. Some turkeys sold as low as sixteen cents; poor quality of ducks and geese from nine to fourteen cents. Note the vast difference in price, governed entirely by the quality.

This same contention ran throughout the entire poultry market. On the same butcher's block squabs were offered at twelve and a half cents each, while as high as sixty cents each was asked for some high-quality specimens. There is scarcely a limit to the price that may be had for the best. The general run of poor quality will be sold at just what it will bring.

A fool is the real thing when compared to some of the smart people we know.

Proper ventilation and exercise during the whole winter are of vital importance to poultry. All the good, fresh air that can be turned into the house will be of advantage to the poultry, providing it does not blow upon them in cold draughts, which are apt to cause colds, and, at times, roup. Exercise adds health and vigor of constitution to poultry of all kinds. This is the reason why everyone is continually advising the use of litter into which to throw the grain and compel the chicken to scratch for same. This continual exercise keeps the poultry from gaining bad habits.

Feather-pulling, egg-eating and other bad habits of poultry are usually the result of idleness. If the poultry is kept busy all the time and their mind on their work rather than mischief, seldom, if ever, will they learn the bad habits that are so disgusting and so destructive to property. The fewer hens that you can keep in each apartment the better results are likely to come from them. When poultry are crowded together in confined quarters they produce very few eggs in winter. A dozen hens in a pen 10 x 12, properly cared for, will produce more eggs than will twenty-five that are kept in a house half the size of this. There are certain limits beyond which one can not go in the housing of poultry. It is an absolute necessity to provide at least four square feet of floor room for each hen where the fowls are confined during the winter in one house. Better results will come from having six square feet for each hen than will come from less number.

Remember the great value of litter in the poultry houses for winter. Save all the nice, dry straw, especially oat straw, the fine roan hay, and everything that will make a nice, dry litter to go on the floors of your poultry houses next winter. Get ready for this in advance so that it will not be necessary to say when the cold season comes upon us next winter that there is nothing at hand for litter. Take care of all these necessities in advance and you will find that it is much easier to care for and have a profit from your poultry.



Standard Varieties of Ducks and Geese

In Two Parts—Part Two

By M. PLUMMER McCULLOUGH

THERE are twelve Standard varieties of ducks, namely: Pekin, Aylesbury, Rouen, Cayuga, White Call, Gray Call, Black East India, Crested White, Colored Muscovy, White Muscovy, Indian Runner and Blue Swedish. The Pekins have the lead of all the market varieties of ducks and they are perhaps bred more in this country than all the other larger varieties combined. They have been raised and bred in this country for many years and have proven a grand duck when grown for market purposes. Many of the large duck growers raise them by the thousands annually. They are a creamy white in color with rich yellow or orange yellow bill and reddish, orange shanks and feet. In shape they are rather upright; that is, they are somewhat above horizontal in shape of back and body. The breast is full and deep, while the back is somewhat sloping from shoulders to tail. The head is rather large, with large deep-set eyes of a dark leaden blue color. Take them as a whole the Pekins are a very pretty duck if bred to Standard requirements. They are very rapid growers and if forced for growth can be made ready for market when about eight weeks old. They are fairly good layers of nice large eggs, laying the bulk of their eggs in the spring months from March till June. They are not bred so very extensively for exhibition, although as much or more so than any other variety of ducks and the demand for Pekins of real high-class quality is very good indeed. In fact there are no better ducks for market purposes as they grow very large if well fed on proper feed. The Standard weights are 9 pounds, 8 pounds, 8 pounds, 7 pounds for adult drake, young drake, adult duck and young duck, respectively. The feathers from Pekins are also worth considerable if carefully saved.

The Aylesburys are also a white duck of the same weight as the Pekins. They are pure white in color where the Pekins are creamy white, with pale flesh-colored bills and light orange-colored shanks and toes. The Aylesburys are strictly an English duck and are bred quite extensively "across the pond." Our English cousins think they are a great duck and I guess they are about right.

Edwin H. Morris in writing about the Aylesbury ducks in *Poultry Fancier* for September says: "This is a breed that has had very little

attention in this country, although in England they are the chief source of revenue for those who raise ducklings for market, and the rich delicate flavor of the meat has undoubtedly been a great factor in maintaining such results. As layers the breed has a claim to the record according to those who are considered authorities in England, surpassing not only the Rouen but the Pekin as well, yet the Indian Runner and the later productions in blue and buff were not under consideration, being placed out of the class of those distinctly valued for their edible merit, where size with flavor is of greatest importance.

"The American Standard of Perfection rightly calls for such points as depth of keel, horizontal carriage, length, whiteness of plumage and correct color of bill, because these matters are distinctive, marking the variety. Judges, therefore, need see that the dead white plumage is not mixed with cream or yellow, that the breast and stern line is distinctly horizontal, that the bill in color is a pale soft pink, that in action there is no inclination to travel like the Runner, with head high and breast similarly elevated, that the legs are so placed that this will not come, and above all that this placement of the legs is not like that of the Pekin so that the aft outweighs the fore." Mr. Morris' article has much good in it about Aylesburys, as American judges do not pay enough attention to type in this variety as they should. In fact many of the ducks that are shown in the United States for Aylesburys are not pure bred Aylesburys at all. Especially is this true of the stock that is carried over the country for the fall fairs. Good Aylesburys are scarce in this country, but they are a very good duck when found in their purity. They do not, I believe, develop quite as rapidly as the Pekins and possibly for this reason have had to take a back seat in America as a market duck.

The Rouens are one of our oldest and most beautiful varieties of ducks. They have been bred in this country many years and a complete description of them seems wholly unnecessary except for the amateur. In type they resemble the Aylesbury more than any other variety, differing slightly in shape of back, head and other minor points. In color the Rouen drake has a lustrous green head and neck with a distinct white ring on lower part of neck not quite meeting at back. The back and shoulders are ashy gray mixed with green, becoming

ing a rich, lustrous green when approaching the tail. Tail is dark ashy brown with white edging in older birds on outer edge. Tail coverts are black, showing rich purple reflections. The breast is a rich purplish brown, extending well down. The under part of the body and sides are steel gray finely pencilled with black. Wing flights are slaty black or brown, coverts pale, clear gray. Wing bar is rich blue with a white edging on each side, making a very beautiful and rich colored wing. The Rouen duck is a pretty brown color with each feather widely pencilled with a darker brown or nearly black. She has a wing bar marked very similar to the drakes, but she has not a white ring around her neck as has the drake. In fact a white ring around neck is a disqualification in the ducks of this breed. Her head is of a deep brown color with two light tan stripes on each side running from bill to point behind eyes. The Rouens are not raised extensively in this country for market purposes by the large duck growers as they prefer a white duck. However, the Rouens are raised by a good many farmers to supply the family with duck eggs for the table, and a duck roast occasionally, with some to put on the market in the fall. They breed quite true to color and are a good duck that should have more attention. The writer bred Rouen ducks nine or ten years ago, but has not had any for a number of years. They are very good layers of large eggs and for so large a variety lay well through the summer and fall if properly fed and cared for. The French people think a lot of the Rouen ducks and they generally know a good thing when they see it. As a fancier's fowl no variety of ducks can surpass them as they are very beautiful. Anyone wanting a large variety of ducks that are both beautiful and profitable, can do well by taking up the old reliable Rouens. Their Standard weights are the same as Pekins and Aylesburys.

The Cayugas are another of the larger varieties of ducks that are very seldom seen in the poultry exhibitions or advertised in the poultry journals. In fact there are not many people raising them to my knowledge. In shape they resemble very much the Aylesburys and Rouens but are a pound lighter in weight than these varieties.

In color they are a lustrous greenish black excepting the primaries of the duck, which are sometimes a dark brown. As a market duck and layer,



A Monarch of His Kind

they are no doubt equal to the other varieties with the exception of the color of shanks and plumage, which is much against them. Possibly it is for this reason that they have never been popular, as a black duck or chicken holds very little chance in the markets today against a white one.

The White and Gray Call Ducks are the Bantams of the duck family. They are very small in size—the smaller the better. The body should be short, well rounded and carried nearly horizontal. The White Calls are pure white in plumage with blue eyes, rich orange-colored shanks and feet and bright yellow bills. The Gray Calls are marked nearly, if not altogether, like the Rouen and look very much like them except for their Bantam size.

The Black East India Ducks are of about the same shape and make-up as the Call Ducks. They are Bantams in size—the smaller the better—and are of about the same shape as the Call. In color they are rich black with dark brown eyes, and black shanks and toes. These three small varieties are said to be fairly good layers but are bred for show and ornamental purposes more than anything else and therefore are not bred in large numbers.

The Crested White Ducks are exactly like the Pekins except that they have large white crests and are two pounds lighter in weight. They, too,

are not bred for market purposes much and therefore are not very popular except with show men who attend a number of fall fairs and shows.

The Muscovy Ducks are rather odd members of the duck family. They are quite large, the Standard weight being 10 pounds, 8 pounds, 7 pounds, 6 pounds for adult drake, young drake, adult duck and young duck, respectively. They are very long bodied with long tails and have large and strong wings. The legs are short and stout. The head is rather large with crest-like feathers on top. The sides of face are covered with caruncles, which look to the amateur very much like warts. They are very hard to handle as they are quite clever with their feet and will scratch your hands up badly if you are not very careful. I have seen poultry judges do the judging and never touch them. In color the White variety is pure white, with orange colored feet and shanks, blue eyes and flesh-colored bills.

The Colored Muscovys are a mixture of black and white all over the body; head and neck are black and white; wings are black, back blue black, sometimes broken with white feathers; tail is black; breast is jet black, often broken with white feathers; thighs are black or white—white preferred. Shanks are from a yellow to a dark red. They are considered a good utility duck by many, but are not in it with some of the other varieties when it comes to raising them in great numbers.

Blue Swedish Ducks are one of the later varieties of ducks, of about the size of the Crested Whites. In shape the body is rangy and is carried nearly horizontal. Back is long and broad with slight concave sweep to tail. In color the drake is dark blue around head, almost approaching black, with a green sheen. The head of duck is steel blue. Bill of duck is smutty brown, of drake greenish blue. The two main flight feathers of wing of both sexes are pure white, with rest of wing blue. The front part of breast is covered with pure white feathers, forming the shape of a heart, and is about three by four inches in size. The rest of the plumage is a uniform steel blue throughout. We know very little about the utility qualities of these ducks, as they are not extensively bred as yet, and to be frank I don't look for any big boom for them in the future.

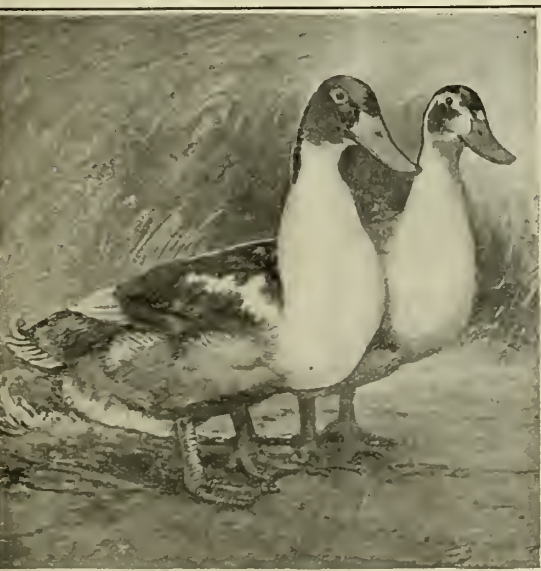
The Indian Runners are the most talked about variety of ducks there are today. They are quite small and of a racy type. Head is long and flat, set on a slender neck. They are very upright in carriage and are truly what their name implies. They actually run instead of walk. The Indian Runners are known for their great laying qualities, as they lay the year round, often laying more eggs in a year than a chicken. The original Indian Runner was a pencilled duck, and this is the Standard color for them today in England, where the American people got their start of them. The American Standard of Perfection recognizes only the pure Light Fawn and White variety and these are the ones that are considered Standard in America. However, there are really three varieties of Indian Runner Ducks in the United States today. They are the American Standard, Light Fawn and White, the English Pencilled and the Pure White. The worst objection to the American Indian Runners is that it seems almost impossible to get those that will lay nothing but white eggs. Pure white eggs are what is wanted in the markets and too many strains, in fact nearly all strains, of the American Standard Indian Runners lay some tinted and some green eggs. In color of plumage the American-bred birds are the most beautiful, although the English Pencilled are favored by many. The pure English Pencilled or at least the Cumberland strain of the English Pencilled lay nothing



A Heavy Specimen

but a pure white egg. Some of the late importations from India are said to lay some green eggs but the English Pencilled breeders in the United States are trying to keep clear of this kind of blood. For producing market eggs the English Pencilled Ducks are surely in it. We have a neighbor who has five of them that have laid over 700 eggs in seven months and yet have five months in which to make up the year. We know of some American Indian Runners that are owned by the same family and they have not laid half as many eggs. A breeder of American Runners told me this very day that if he was starting over again he would take up the English Pencilled in preference to the American Runners. Another large breeder of American Indian Runners told me at the fair that he believed the English Pencilled Runners were the best duck, but he bred to the American Standard because he wanted to cater to people's wants.

Mr. J. C. Clipp in the October number of Poultry, in writing about English Pencilled Runners says in part: "Now let me tell you that I am here to state that we doubt if there ever was, or will be, without long and careful breeding a duck that will surpass the true English Pencilled Runners for eggs and especially for white eggs."



A Winning Pair



A Well Mated Pair

I am aware that some breeders of the Fawn and White Indian Runners claim that their ducks lay nothing but white eggs, but when it comes to the real facts there occasionally appears a tinted egg. No fowl on earth has ever been bred that lays more eggs within a year's time than do the true English Runners."

There is a decided boom right now in English white egg Runners, and there are two clubs to help push the good work along.

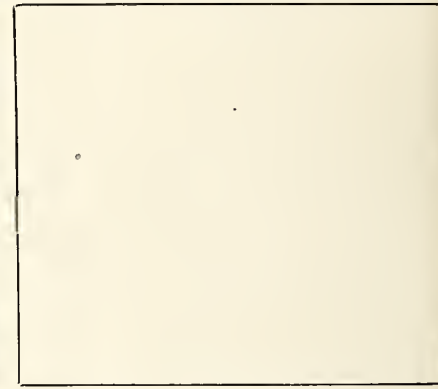
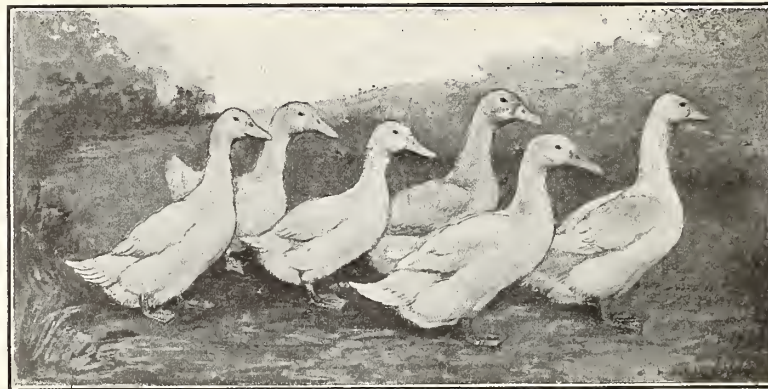
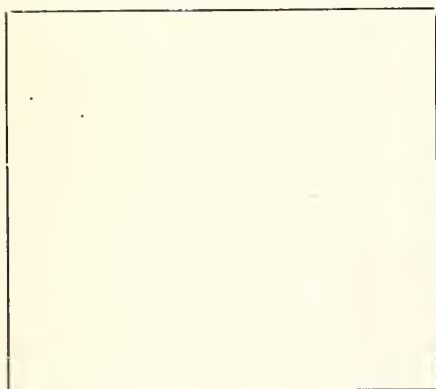
The first called meeting of the Cumberland White Egg Indian Runner Club took place at the State Fair at Syracuse, N. Y. You will find a notice in this issue of this Journal of it. Please look it up.

Besides the American and English Indian Runners there are today the Pure White Indian Runners and they promise to be very popular. In shape they are, or should be, just like the Standard Runners, differing only in color. The writer has bred

the Pure White Runners for the past year and so far is very well satisfied with them. I also have a nice flock of true English Indian Runners that I hope to be able to tell the readers of this journal about from time to time. The Whites have not yet been admitted to the Standard although they will be in the near future.

Another of the late varieties of ducks is the Buff Orpington. These ducks were originated by Wm. Cook & Sons, also originators of the Standard and non-Standard varieties of Orpingtons. I have never seen many of these as yet, but what I have seen do not breed very true to color. They are a large duck with pinkish skin and shanks and should be buff throughout, though they are inclined to come quite dark in wings of drakes. While they may prove quite popular in time, we hardly think it possible that any duck will take the place of the Pekin as a market duck or of the English Pencilled Indian Runner as a layer.

In conclusion let me say that if you like ducks you will find them a very profitable fowl to keep. While I prefer a running stream for them, they will do fairly well without it. If you have a piece of low swampy pasture land you will find it an ideal place for ducks or geese. They do not require expensive houses, but must be kept dry and fairly clean. I can not go into details as to care, housing and feeding in this article, as I do not have the space. Possibly I may take this up at some future time. But I do want to say that if you are a lover of waterfowl you will make no mistake in purchasing a good flock of ducks. Whatever you do though, don't buy mongrels. Get nothing but pure-bred ducks. They are none too good for you, and when you have some surplus stock for sale you can sell them for breeding stock and not for hucksters' prices. Get the best, as it is the cheapest in the long run, and with proper care and good judgment you will find duck keeping both pleasant and profitable.



The Late-Hatched Chicks

By ANNA M. STEIN

WHEN the man of the house returned from a visit to a large poultry house carrying a box made of corrugated paper and punched with half-inch holes, my heart failed, temporarily, for our hot weather was at hand, the rainy season had begun and my youngest chicks were eight weeks old. To bother with a small brood of late-hatched incubator chicks seemed beyond endurance, but when the cover was lifted and I saw the nine balls of lemon-colored fluff excitedly mingling with as many lively balls of striped brown, my heart revived and I at once began to think of the nourishment and care of my new responsibilities. I had both White and Brown Leghorn stock, and the thoughtful man had bought these youngsters to add new blood to my flocks, so I determined to give them the best care possible and have them mature as rapidly as was expedient.



The Flock of Whites

Four days of steadily pouring rain prevented the chicks being put in an outdoor coop, and, as I had no indoor brooder, it was, as the boys say, "Up to me" to improvise a nursery. Several thicknesses of newspapers overlaid with a sheet of heavy wrapping paper were laid in a corner of a room and fenced off with two sections of my four-foot knock-down wire coop. Cut alfalfa and the coarse part of sifted wheat bran mixed with fine grit and charcoal were shaken down in one part of this four-foot yard, and a drinking fountain was set up. In this now complete brooder yard I placed the corrugated box in one end of which I had cut a hole large enough for the chicks to pass through. This box was their brooder as long as they fitted into it. The first few days they had to be educated to leave and enter it without the lure of heat. By tapping my finger where the food was scattered I called the chicks out, and after a few lessons they ran into the box to a finger tap as readily as they ran out. Commercial chick feed added to the wheat bran, with an occasional shredded egg and a sprinkle of oatmeal, formed their first week's ration. They had to scratch in the alfalfa for every bit of food, and to my mind there is nothing so good for young chickens as the exercise of scratching. The first lesson they have from the hen is that of scratching. The first week they had to eat alfalfa for green food, but as soon as they were put into their newly whitewashed and disinfected yard coop they were given sprouted oats daily. The coop was moved often, and a hopper of mixed bran and meat scrap was kept constantly within their reach. Within ten days they had outgrown their box and were put into a metal brooder. They had no artificial heat at any time and the metal brooder was covered with

a coarse sieve at night to make it rat proof.

Four chicks died during the first week, not from any lack of care, but from weakness. The others grew rapidly and by careful feeding they escaped all disease except a general breaking out of sore head. At the very first sign of what I had dreaded, because of the lateness of the season, I applied Mustang Liniment to every head, covering each comb, wattle and beak. Two applications proved sufficient to effect a complete cure before the disease had made any headway. Why the chickens hatched in the spring should develop sore head when the fall-hatched ones are free from it I have yet to learn, but I have never failed to cure it with the above treatment.

Plenty of fresh water, food before them at all times, an abundance of green food, and absolutely clean quarters made this brood grow rapidly and after disposing of the extra cocks I have left a pen of each breed from which I expect good results.



The Flock of Browns

Pointers on Feeds and Feeding



By MICHAEL K. BOYER

THE principal food elements are proteids, carbohydrates and fats. The subordinate elements are ash and fiber. Proteids or protein, albuminous or nitrogenous matter are found in grains as gluten, in milk as casein, in meat and blood as fibrin, and in bones as gelatin. In other words, protein is the nourishing matter that grows bone, muscle, blood, feathers and eggs.

Carbohydrates, or "nitrogen-free extract," is carbonaceous or starchy matter, which forms the bulk of the dry matter in almost every article of diet, to a more or less extent, and furnishes heat and energy.

Fats, too, are found in every article of food. They furnish a reserve force of heat and energy, and also largely enter into the composition of the egg.

In the subordinate elements we find that ash is lime or other mineral matter, that occurs often in small quantities, excepting probably in bone and shell, and is partly digestible.

Fiber represents the husks or waste matter, which, as a rule, is indigestible.

Food has three objects: Develop and maintain the organic structure; warmth to the body; strength and energy expended every minute in sustaining life and producing results.

Having thus gained a knowledge of the science of feeding, it is advisable to know just what articles of diet will best fit the purpose.

James E. Rice, of the Cornell Agricultural Experiment Station, says there are three possible dangers to be avoided in feeding, the first being overstimulation by feeding too much rich, soft food, thus causing indigestion and consequent derangement of the reproductive system. Second, feeding too much corn or fattening foods. Third, underfeeding.

Bulletin No. 100 of the New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts and Experiment Station, Mesilla Park, says a valuable lesson in feeding for egg production may be learned from nature. Fowls that are allowed to run at large and pick up their living about the ranch lay most of their eggs during the spring months.

Note the conditions that surround these fowls at this time; the weather is warm and there is plenty of food easily secured. This food consists of a mixture of grain and other seeds, green grass, clover, etc. The fowls get an abundance of fresh air and exercise—two important factors for large egg production.

Corn alone does not form a good food for laying hens, for it tends to the production of too much

fat. If corn is allowed to form a large part of the ration, a large amount of work must also be provided. This work is supplied by scattering the grain deeply in light litter, compelling the fowls to scratch for it.

For a single article of grain, wheat is best, although a mixed ration is preferable. Fowls not only relish a variety, but it will be more completely digested and assimilated than a single kind of food.

Professor Wheeler, of New York State Experiment Station, suggests a daily ration made up of cracked corn, one pound; wheat, .75 pound; cornmeal, .75 pound; wheat middlings, .5 pound; buckwheat middlings, .5 pound; animal meal .5 pound; fresh bone, .66 pound, and young green alfalfa, .75 pound. This forms a ration containing one pound of protein, 3.75 pounds of carbohydrates and .35 pound of fat, and having a nutritive ratio of 1:4.6; that is, one pound of flesh forming food to an equivalent of 4.6 pounds of heat and fat forming food. This daily ration would be sufficient for one hundred pounds live weight. In other words, it would feed twenty 5-pound hens, or thirty 3-pound hens.

An important matter to remember in feeding is not so much what we feed as how we feed it, and under what conditions it is fed. For instance, corn can be fed more heavily to fowls having free range than it can to fowls in confinement. In the case of a range the fowls secure so much miscellaneous matter, to say nothing of exercise, to counteract any bad effect which the corn might give.

No rule can be established as to quantity that will fit all fowls. Some fowls are more greedy than others; some will overfatten on what would keep others in proper condition; and some quickly lose their appetites, especially where there is a lack of variety in the bill of fare.

Now while there is no rule that will hold good in all cases and under all conditions, some plan must be laid to work upon. On the farm of the writer, when the morning mash is given, an iron spoonful of mash is given to each fowl—eight spoonfuls to a pen of sixteen birds. If this is greedily eaten up a little more is given, and if it is not greedily eaten a few spoonfuls less is allowed them the next morning. When grain is fed in the evening, one handful is thrown among litter for each head of stock, and if at once they pitch in to scratching and eating, they have about the right quantity. But if they do not show great activity in the matter, and some of the grain is left to lie about, a less quantity is given them the next night. This careful watching of the appetite is very important and goes a great way in successful work.

Regularity of meals is equally important. It is wonderful how well the fowls know the meal hour. Miss the time and the hens will be seen to run back and forth along the fence, looking up and down the yard for the attendant, and how they will make a rush towards him the moment he appears! When fowls are hungry they become nervous, and worry.

While overfeeding has its bad effects, underfeeding is equally as bad. An underfed hen may receive enough food to sustain the body, but there is a lack of material for egg making. It should be known that the first food a fowl takes goes toward the building up of waste tissues, and the overplus to the making of eggs or fat, according to the quality of food given. Hens on free range can stand a diet of corn or fattening food as the other material they secure in their range—seeds, bugs, worms, etc.—furnish the material for eggs. The study of a hen's crop after coming in from a range is evident that she knows just what to take to balance her ration and give good results.

But no food will have its desired effect unless the hen is made comfortable. She must be happy. Merely a satisfied stomach will not do it.

Dr. Sanborn says that if there is one article of food more misused than any other in the feeding of poultry, it is our national grain, corn. Its overuse produces a deposit of fat in all available parts of the body, which in time is likely to be followed by "fatty degeneration" of muscles and organs. Large collections of fat, with the conditions likely to arise from its presence, are common causes of apoplexy, inflammation of liver, bursting of oviduct (egg passage) from the obstruction, vertigo and abnormal conditions of heart and kidneys.

Corn is not the only food that will produce too much fat, says Dr. Sanborn. Feeding oats, wheat and fat meat in overabundance will induce the obese condition—but these articles as commonly fed are fairly safe to use.

Professor Hill, the famous English authority, says: "An overfed fowl is never a well-fed one."

We have lying upon our desk an old English work, written probably sixty or seventy years ago (the book bears no date), and it is remarkable how well this feed question was handled at such an early date.

The writer says that all who have bestowed attention on the feeding of stock of different descriptions, tell us that various kinds of foods are necessary for the different functions which it is the object of food to perform. One kind is required to give warmth and to aid respiration, and another to restore the muscular waste of the matured, or to increase the bulk of the growing animal. If we give all warmth-producing substances, the con-

In the experimenter's opinion the data presented are not sufficient to warrant the definite conclusion that the better egg yield with the fresh-meat scrap was due to its higher percentage of fat and ash, but "they appear to indicate that in feeding for eggs the poultryman will be able to accomplish with cheap fat, or cheap foods rich in fat, what he has been vainly striving to accomplish with expensive protein."

NOTE.—This Chart will be published each Month in The Feather during the year. Keep a correct record of your birds each month.

TIMELY TOPICS

By M. PLUMMER McCULLOUGH.

We have just received Mr. C. F. Townsend's book, "Poultry Secrets Revealed," and while we have not yet had time to give it a thorough reading we have read enough in it to know that it is a splendid book for beginners especially, and as Mr. Townsend has, I believe, prepared the book more for this class it will be, and should be, in great demand by those starting with poultry.

We have just received in today's mail our copy of the new Standard ordered over a month ago. While there are many good things in it there are many of the illustrations especially that are not ideal—not perfection. In my mind there is not a real good Wyandotte in type in the bunch. The Wyandotte illustrations don't look right; not natural. They seemed to have a half scared, unlikelike look about them, and I don't like them a little bit. In my mind the drawing of Arthur G. Duston's first prize cockerel, at Madison Square Garden, by Artist Sewell, is more ideal than any Wyandotte illustration in the Standard. Duston's bird looks alive and not as if he was mounted. Another thing I could not help but notice was the color of the Buff Wyandottes. At first I thought they were the Whites. If this is Buff Color I don't know what buff is. In looking at the Buff Rocks they appear to be several shades darker than the Wyandottes, and the Buff Cochins seem even darker than the Rocks. Still the color is supposed to be the same in all three. Either the Rocks or Cochins don't look so bad, but the Buff Wyandottes surely are entirely too light to look decent.

Really there is a lot of stuff in the Standard that is far from perfection and we will live in hopes that some day we may have a Standard that is a Standard in every way.

Regarding floors, C. F. Townsend, in National Poultry Magazine, writes: "After a three years' test of various floors I am convinced that a properly made cement floor covered liberally with the 'O. K.' litter is the best of all. Such a floor is both vermin and damp proof. Moreover, it is the cheapest in the end, because once laid it stays."

We agree with Mr. Townsend, although we have not had personal experience with cement floors, although a neighbor has a cement floor and thinks it is just the thing. One thing sure it will not rot and neither will the rats or mice chew through it as they often do with board floors. If I was building any permanent poultry houses I would surely try cement floors. It is very important, however, that you keep the floor well covered with good scratching material.

J. C. Deaton, in Poultry Fancier, gives some good advice to beginners. Mr. Deaton writes: "It is better to buy a trio rightly mated from a reliable breeder for \$25, than to buy a dozen birds that are worth only that much. When writing breeders for prices be sure to state what you want, that is, whether fancy or only utility stock. Then do not ask for the best stock he has or as good as any, and expect to get it for just what utility stock is worth."

Friends, here is some splendid ad-

vice and beginners will do well to put it in practice. It will never pay to buy cheap stock for a start. Of course, it depends much on what line of the business you are going to follow. If you are going in for market poultry and eggs only, you don't want to buy show birds, but even then you don't want to buy cheap, trashy stock. Good utility stock can not be bought at market price by a long shot.

It depends also on what kind of utility stock you get. Some breeders sell their culls for utility stock. This is not right. Utility stock is not culls. They are stock that are below par as to exhibition qualities. Personally I consider them to be a class of birds that are bred for market purposes, or are sold to produce market stock.

It is true that utility stock may be as well bred as your prize winners, and in such case they will no doubt produce a few good chicks if properly mated. But as Mr. Deaton has said, don't buy utility stock from a breeder and then expect them to be prize winners. If you do you will get fooled and you deserve to be, too.

In Farm Poultry is an article regarding the South Australian laying competitions that has interested me very much. The expert in charge of this work seems to have come to the conclusion that the practice of breeding from heavy layers, year after year, forcing them for egg production, has weakened the birds in vitality, materially. He says: "It is very noticeable among some of the birds that have been bred from some recognized laying strains which have become very small and weedy in appearance, and it is very doubtful if the heavy laying has been maintained in these birds which their ancestors were duly noted for. Various troubles have arisen which, though small at the present stage, point to a decided weakening of the constitution, and also point to a limit having been reached in some systems of matings, which will have a disastrous effect if continued much longer on the same lines, and become a matter of regret if constitution is sacrificed for the sake of a few more eggs. Secondly, it has been too common an occurrence during the change to treat birds suffering from troubles of the reproductive organs. This points clearly to a loss of strength in the internal organs. Other things noticed are weakness of the legs and a sort of a paralysis of the brain. These matters require, I think, an infusion of new and invigorating blood in the breeding systems and tend to bear out my previous statement that breeding along certain lines has gone far enough."

Farm Poultry in commenting on this says: "Indeed we do not have to wait till the hens get into the '200-egg' class to see that heavy laying diminishes vitality. The tendency is so pronounced that any careful or candid observer can not fail to see it. By extra good care and breeding from nothing but the most vigorous birds, the conditions above may be postponed, but always it is only a question of time. Sooner or later the most carefully managed flock will show the wear of heavy egg production."

We heartily agree with Farm Poultry along this line, although we believe that a carefully managed test is of great interest and value to the poultry

public. However, it is a big mistake to overcrowd, to force, by unnatural methods, the laying of too great an egg yield. Especially is this true of birds kept for breeders. Your breeding birds should not under any circumstances be forced for heavy egg production by feeding poultry condition powders or any other dope. If your breeding birds are shelling out eggs all through the winter, at their full capacity, you may rest assured that their eggs will not hatch as many or as strong chicks as you expect. Don't overcrowd your breeding birds for eggs. It is a mistake and you can not afford to overcrowd them.

Speaking about poultry medicines I wish to say right now that you should be careful about buying medicines for your fowls. Few of them are any good and you can not be too careful about what you pour down your birds. There are, I believe, more birds made worse by dopping them with drugs than are cured with them. Well birds need no medicine and you had better keep them in such health that they will need no dope.

Mrs. Geo. R. Simpson has an article in September number of Poultry on "American Standard Indian Runners," which I have read very carefully and with much interest.

Mrs. Simpson is a breeder of the American Standard Indian Runners, the White Indian Runners and also the English Pencilled Indian Runners which she seems to delight in running down.

Among other things, Mrs. Simpson says, "There are two kinds of ducks which are a drug on the market and they are the English Pencilled and the tinted egg layers, whatever color she may be.

"Personally I have no preference except as to their money-making ability. It is easy to see that there are some tinted egg layers among the English Pencilled flocks as well as in some of the American flocks.

"This year we sold from February 1 to May 1, over \$1,500 worth of eggs and of that amount I had \$34 sales for the English Pencilled eggs. My flock was one-eighth English Pencilled birds and their proportional part should have been \$200."

This article of Mrs. Simpson's is an interesting one, and no doubt has some truth in it, but there are some things in her article that I do not agree with. She states that she does not have any preference, and still she praises the American Runners and condemns the English Runners throughout her article and it looks very much that she has a preference for the American Runners. We don't deny that some of the so-called English Pencilled birds lay tinted eggs, but you must remember that a great many of the advertised English Runners of today are not true English. Just because a duck has a little pencilling on it is no guarantee that it is an English Runner. In fact, anything that lays anything but a strictly white egg is not what we term a true English Runner.

I am not a bit surprised that Mrs. Simpson sold so many more dollars' worth of eggs from her American or Pure White Runners if she advertises in all papers as she does in Poultry. In looking over the classified ads. we see Mrs. Simpson has quite a large classified ad. offering Light Fawn, White and Pure White Runners, but we see no mention of her English Pencilled birds. It is not much wonder then that she does not have more demand for them if she does not advertise them.

We have watched this Indian Runner Duck fight pretty close and really I am

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Contains these elements, when combined with the food, to make the laziest hen lay her share of eggs. It is a great Laying Tonic and conditioner of hens. Those who have tried it would not be without it—and now is your time to prove it. See the testimonials on back cover page of this number of The Feather. Send for our new free booklet, "Calendar of Poultry Keeping, 1912." Agents wanted. Regular size box, $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., 25 cents; by mail, 45 cents. Five boxes, by express or freight, \$1.00. Sample size, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 10 cents; by mail, 15 cents.

The Successful Poultry Remedy Company

WASHINGTON, D. C.

getting sick of it. I am sorry that the two varieties could not have been made one and the breeders of them gotten together and adopted a standard that would have been satisfactory to both. There hardly seems to be enough contrast between the two varieties to admit them both to the Standard and this fact is hurting the Indian Runner Ducks immensely. I would say, however, to Mrs. Simpson, that while her article is one of the best of the kind I have ever read, and as much as I respect her, I can hardly see how she expects us to think she has no preference when her article reads as it does. It leaves rather a bad taste in one's mouth.

In same number of Poultry, Geo. E. Speer has an article on Silver Bearded Polish, and in this article Mr. Speer writes: "I usually use a Plymouth Rock hen for hatching the eggs as no Polish eggs will hatch in an incubator, especially if put in with eggs from other varieties. I can not give the reasons for this, but it has proved so with me." This is all news to the writer. Personally I thought Polish eggs would hatch the same as any other variety. Have any of our readers ever had any experience in trying to hatch Polish eggs in an incubator? If so, what were the results? Please send your experience along this line to the writer and he will make good use of it.

The American Stockkeeper gives the report of the Maryland station experiments on corn-fed hens to determine the color of the yolks of eggs. Part of their article is as follows: "A flock of one hundred and twenty S. C. White Leghorns were divided into three lots, of forty each and were housed and cared for alike except that one pen received its whole grain in the form of corn, another in the form of wheat and the third a mixture of corn and wheat. All the pens were allowed free access to yards which furnished a limited amount of green stuff. All eggs laid by these pens were saved and after boiling were cut in halves and placed in parallel rows for comparison. In every instance the eggs from the pen that were fed all corn were of a deep yellow color. Every egg from the corn and wheat-fed lot had yolks of good yellow color, while with but three exceptions, the lot fed on all wheat laid eggs that had pale colored yolks. The three exceptions can probably be accounted for by some of the hens getting some green stuff from the yards. As a result of this test, it was concluded that corn, when fed to hens in the proportion of nine parts corn to twelve parts mash, gives a very deep yellow color to the yolk. Corn, when fed in the proportion of four and one-half parts corn to nineteen and one-half parts of other food, gives a noticeable yellow tint. Wheat, when fed in the same proportion, does not give any yellow color to the yolks of the eggs."

We are mostly aware that the feeding has much to do with the color of the yolks of eggs, and we are glad to give this bit of information to our readers.

In Poultry Keeper, Miss Grace Kellerstrass, one of the owners of Kellerstrass White Orpington Farm, has an article giving their egg sale for May, 1912. All told, they have sold \$1,930.77 worth of eggs for hatching during that period. This is going some and it must have been a very successful season after all for the Kellerstrasses. Another thing of interest in her article is the cost to them of producing their eggs. She writes: "I am not at all surprised at a good many people calling themselves poultrymen not making

a success of the business. When you look through the poultry journals you will see many people offering eggs for hatching at \$1, \$2 and \$2.50 per setting. Now, you know a person with money is not going to buy from these people. Why? Because they know that eggs can not be produced for that price, that is, from the right kind of stock. In figuring our own books I find that it costs us \$8.05 to produce a setting of eggs—to get them ready to hand over to a customer. Each and every setting of eggs that leaves our farm costs us \$8.05. Why? Because when you take into consideration the enormous amount of money it takes to hire first-class help, to trapnest your birds, to sell off your culls to the packing houses, and everything, it all runs into money. Our books are open for inspection at any time the same as they were when my father ran the business and anyone doubting the figures I herewith enclose can have the privilege of looking over our books any time he visits the farm."

According to Miss Kellerstrass' statement, we had all better keep nothing but the best. While it is true that good eggs can not be sold at \$1 per setting or birds at \$1 each, it is also true that there are many people who would like to get a start in the poultry business who are not able to pay from \$10 to \$30 per setting for eggs. It is sometimes possible for them to buy stock or eggs from some small breeder who has nearly as good stock and at half the price. Farms that sell eggs at such large figures must have large expensive catalogues printed and use a big lot of space in advertising in order to sell their eggs at these prices, and when we come right down to facts their customers must pay them that much more for their eggs in order to give them larger profits. In other words, the customers have to pay for

their advertising, and I don't know but what they can well afford to as it is also an advantage for them to say that their stock is of Mr. A's or Mr. B's strain. Sometimes this will help them to sell stock.

We lately cooped up our culls and sent them to market. Oh, yes, bless you, we raise some culls. Always did and, I suppose, always will. All birds with stubs on shanks, side sprigs on combs, badly crooked toes, wry-tails, etc., were sent to market and I was glad to get them off the feed. Among other birds sent was a hen that was five years old last spring. You will possibly wonder why I kept a White Rock hen so long. I will tell you. First, she was a well-bred one, direct from Fishel. Second, she was a fine individual. Third, she was a splendid breeder. However, I felt she had lived out her usefulness and she went to market. She was no cull, though. If she had been I would not have kept her for five years. It don't pay to keep the culls too long. Get rid of them and put the feed into the better birds.

Dr. H. W. Sanborn, in Poultry Keeper, highly recommends the following dry mash: "Three parts bran, two parts cornmeal, one part middlings, one part beef scraps and one part cut alfalfa or clover if short of green food. These parts are by measure. The scratch food given in connection with this mash is equal parts wheat, corn and oats by measure." The doctor is a good writer and knows what a good ration is and the above can be relied upon.

Rev. C. E. Peterson says, in Poultry Fancier: "Proper condition of fowls intended for exhibition is often half the battle. Many good birds in poor show condition lose the prizes to in-

ferior specimens that are carefully groomed for the occasion." How true this is and often do we see it in the show room. If you show you should have (and must have if you want to win) your birds in the very best of condition. Handle them, get them tame, coop them a few hours each day, clean their shanks with vaseline, and last, but not least, wash them, and wash them well if they are white birds.

Buff Leghorns are rapidly forging to the front and there is no breeder in this country of ours who is doing more for them than is F. A. Tecktonius, of Racine, Wis. Mr. Tecktonius has built up a large and profitable business by honest dealing and that is one of the secrets of success in the poultry business. You must be honest with your customers if you want their patronage year after year. Mr. Tecktonius publishes a very attractive catalogue which our readers can have if interested in Buff Leghorns. In this catalogue he tells "How To Prepare Buff Leghorns for the Show Room," "Treatment of Poultry Diseases," "The Feeding and Care of Chicks," "Breeding House Construction," "The Color Question in Buff Leghorns," "Origin of Buff Leghorns," and many other articles of special value. This is a catalogue worth having and as we believe Mr. Tecktonius to be a very reliable man to deal with, our readers who are in need of Buff Leghorns of either the Single or Rose Comb can not go wrong by dealing with him. We need more like him in the poultry business.

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This work tells how to convert egg failures into egg successes; how to systematize at all stages; and all about the management of the industry right down to the marketing point. Conditions in all great poultry centers and countries are discussed, and the best practical business methods of each explained. From beginning to end the book keeps the **PAYING POINT** strictly in view; all facts, figures and explanations are based upon **ACTUAL EXPERIENCE**.

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Occupation

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Shows and Associations

The second annual exhibition of the Mississippi Valley Poultry and Corn Association, of Moline, Ill., will be held at Turner Hall, December 18-22, 1912.

The second annual show of the Falls Church Poultry Association will be held December 3, 4 and 5, 1912. For particulars and other information, address S. E. Hutton, secretary, Falls Church, Va.

The Silver Wyandotte Club catalogue of seventy-six pages containing valuable information is now ready. The same will be sent free to those interested. Address H. J. Goette, secretary-treasurer, St. Paul, Minn.

The Iowa State Poultry Show will be held at Sioux City, Iowa, December 11 to 17. The large auditorium has been secured and the cooping is supplied by Spratts. This assures exhibitors that their exhibits will be splendidly displayed. L. G. Wertz, secretary-treasurer.

Black Orpington National Club Meet will be held next year at Indianapolis with the National Fanciers' Club January 1-7. Eastern Branch meets at Rochester January 7-11. Southern Branch meets at Little Rock. Western Branch meets at Los Angeles, Cal. Grand trophy cups, gold medals, cash specials at each of these shows. Particulars of Milton Brown, Station L, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The American Cornish Club offers for the season of 1912-13 five silk ribbons to members in good standing, on first cock, hen, cockerel, pullet and pen. Our new 70-page catalogue is the finest in the world. One article is worth many dollars to any Cornish fancier. The book is free to all members; to interested fanciers the price is 25 cents in silver. W. A. Low, president, Catonsville, Md. H. C. Hayes, secretary, Eureka, Ill.

The 1912 catalogue of the American Cornish Club is the finest ever gotten out by any specialty club. It is a 70-page book full of illustrations and useful information; one article on mating and breeding is indispensable to any Cornish fancier. Price, 25 cents silver, free to members. The annual meeting will be held in Chicago, December, 1912. This will be a great meeting and we want all possible to attend and bring your birds. H. C. Hayes, Secretary, Eureka, Ill.

The Rhode Island White Club of America will give five handsome club ribbons, one each for best cock, hen, cockerel, pullet and pen in any show in United States where this notice is printed in their premium list. These ribbons to be competed for by members only. Ribbons will be sent direct to winners by club secretary of show verifying winnings. Club membership fee \$1. For particulars and application blanks for joining the club address the secretary-treasurer, Mrs. C. M. Verrees, Cecilia, Ky.

The American Buff Leghorn Club will offer beautiful ribbons valued at \$1 each for the best shaped male, best shaped female, best colored male, best

colored female, Single and Rose Comb Buff Leghorns.

Only members of the club can compete for these prizes. You can become a member of the club any time inside of one week before the show, and compete for these ribbons by sending \$1 to Geo. S. Barnes, Battle Creek, Mich. Send 5 cents in stamps for 80-page book about Buff Leghorns that is better than many \$2 books on the market.

National Rose Comb Orpington Club show will have one of the largest lists of cash prizes ever offered by any specialty club. A large, valuable cup is offered by the club for the best display of any variety of Rose Comb Orpingtons. Breeders are requested to write to the secretary, A. R. Brown, 83 Greenwood Street, Melrose Highlands, Mass., for a catalogue and list of specials. All breeders joining now have the privilege of voting for place of holding club meet; ballots are sent with membership certificate on receipt of one dollar which pays all dues to October 1, 1913. There are cash prizes for all whether birds are placed or not. Now get busy, Rose Comb breeders, and make this show the greatest of the season.

National Columbian Wyandotte Club will hold its annual meeting and club show in connection with the Philadelphia, Pa., Poultry, Pigeon and Pet Stock Association, December 10-14, 1912. The club is engaged in raising a special fund of \$500 to be used exclusively for prizes at various shows the coming winter. At the Philadelphia show there will be offered \$200 in cash besides many silver cups, medals and other prizes for Columbian Wyandottes alone. Silver cups, cash specials and club ribbons are to be offered at various State and local shows in the United States and in Canada. The membership of the club is fast increasing and great interest is being shown in the coming show season. Send for club catalogue (which is free) and membership card. One dollar pays for membership to November 1, 1913. Address National Columbian Wyandotte Club, Ralph Woodward, secretary-treasurer, Grafton, Mass.

The next annual meeting of the International Rose Comb Black Minorca Club will be in connection with the great Boston show, January 7 to 11, 1913. Already a large amount of cash specials have been offered and it will be a show which no breeder of Rose Comb Black Minorcas can afford to miss, either with his entries or his presence. An expert poultryman will be in attendance at the show to see that all Rose Comb Black Minorcas are properly cared for and handled, also brushed up and looking their best before the judge gets around. Whether you are able to be there in person or not your birds will receive proper care and a winning of even a small prize at this show will be worth many times the expense involved. Don't forget to send to W. B. Atherton, 30 Broad street, Boston, Mass., for a copy of the premium list as soon as it is out. If you can not send more, an exhibit of even one or two birds will help make this the greatest Rose Comb Black Minorca show ever brought out. We will see that you get a square deal.

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REGAL WYANDOTTE—BARGAIN SALE of fine stock. Hens, \$1.50; Cocks and Cockerels, \$2 to \$10. Two 244 Egg Cyphers Incubators. Elwood Taylor, Berwyn, Md.

WYANDOTTES—BOYD'S WASHINGTON Strain of Black Wyandottes are still winning. Stock and eggs for sale. Write for circular and prices. Geo. H. Boyd, 1255 Morse St. N. E., Washington, D. C.

WYANDOTTES—STOCK AND EGGS TO sell from winners of White Wyandottes at Washington, Warrenton, Richmond, etc. Circular giving winnings and prices sent on request. W. W. Thomas, Catlett, Va.

1,000 PURE DUSTON WHITE WYANDOTTES, raised on 50-acre farm, 20 yards, mated for eggs. Get prices on your wants. Allen Sechrist, Port Trevorton, Pa.

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BREEDING S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS. Exclusive eggs for sale, \$2 per 15, or \$5 per 100. Satisfaction guaranteed. John M. Yergler, Gilbertsville, Pa.

ROSE COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—WINNERS at Madison Square, Buffalo and Rochester. Mating list and circular. Eight grand pens. Box F, Howard J. Fisk, Falconer, N. Y.

S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS OF SUPERIOR quality. An amalgamation of America's best blood lines. Mated right and bred right. Why experiment? Our stock is beyond that stage. Profit by our loss. Nice stock for sale, both young and old, that will start you on the road to success. Holiday Heights Poultry Farm, Sellersville, Pa.

WHITE ROCKS, WHITE AND BROWN Leghorns. Mating list free. Susquehanna Yards, Route 2, Wrightsville, Pa.

S. C. W. LEGHORNS—HEAVY LAYERS and vigorous stock. Eggs, \$2 per 50; \$3.50 per 100; \$15 for 500. John C. Beck, Middletown, Pa.

ROSE-COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—EGGS and baby chicks for sale. Send for my list winnings. James G. Todd, Punxsutawney, Pa., Route 4.

ROSE-COMB BUFF LEGHORNS AND Columbian Wyandottes. Eggs for hatching. Stock for sale. Write to Harry A. Crumbling, East Prospect, York Co., Pa.

100 S. C. W. LEGHORN HENS FOR SALE (yearlings), Wyckoff and Lakewood strains, also 50 S. C. R. I. Reds, all at dead cheap prices to make room for young stock. I. E. Featherston, Au Sable Forks, N. Y.

ORPINGTONS

BLACK ORPINGTON WINNERS AT 7 shows this year, including Baltimore, Hagerstown, for sale. Also Whites. Eggs for hatching. R. D. Lillie, Takoma Park, D. C.

ORPINGTONS—WHITE, KELLERSTRASS, Black, Cook's. Stock for sale. (Rev.) E. H. Keator, Franklin Park, N. J.

ORPINGTONS—WHITE (BOTH COMBS) Single Comb Buff, Black. New York, Boston, Allentown, Hagerstown, Williamsport winners. Eggs. Baby chicks. Prices reasonable. Mating list free. Wm. Seidel, Box H, Washingtonville, Pa.

GENUINE KELLERSTRASS PEGGY—Crystal King Strain. Stock, eggs and baby chicks. Get my prices before buying. Write for mating list. J. R. Inskeep, Holly, Mich.

KELLERSTRASS STRAIN, WHITE ORPINGTONS. Eggs, \$1.50 per 15; \$7 per 100. Ed. Leclerc, Central City, Iowa.

ROSE COMB BUFF ORPINGTONS—Golden Strain. Great size, color and exhibition qualities. Eggs, \$3 and \$5 per setting. Booklet free. S. D. Lance, Troy, Ohio.

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RHODE ISLAND WHITES, KRISTAL Strain. Before placing orders send for our free, illustrated catalogue. It proves why Krystal strain is best. Bass Bros., Box 375, Marietta, N. Y.

RHODE ISLAND WHITES, EXCELLENT winter layers. Eggs from fine matings, \$2 per fifteen. Arthur J. Deex, Berea, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND REDS

YOU WILL NEED THE NEW RHODE Island Red Journal. Devoted to the Reds exclusively. Best advertising medium in the world for Red breeders. No waste circulation. Send 50c. now for full year's subscription to O. A. Studier, Editor, Waverly, Iowa.

HIGHEST GRADE SINGLE-COMB REDS. Color and shape unsurpassed. Eggs at \$3 per setting of fifteen. Wistaria Poultry Farm, Northfield, Mass., Geo. R. Witte, Proprietor.

ROSE COMB REDS (DE GRAFF STRAIN). Eggs, \$2.50 per 15; also pairs and trios, tested breeders or young stock, very reasonable. Navarre Poultry Yards, Toledo, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND REDS—BOTH COMBS, from finely selected birds, heavy laying strain. Eggs, \$1 per 15 or \$5 per 100. Hugh Brinton, West Chester, Pa.

IF INTERESTED IN STRICTLY FINE, Prize Winning, Rose Comb, R. I. Reds, send postal for my 1912 mating list. You won't regret it. Highland Farm, Herbert M. Tucker, Owner, Canton, Me.

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BANTAM SPECIALIST—BUFF, BLACK, Partridge Cochins and Light Brahmas. I ship on approval—circular free. Geo. C. Salmon, Port Dickinson, N. Y.

MOHAWK BANTAM YARDS. HIGH-CLASS, Exhibition Black Red and Red Pyle Games, Rose Comb Blacks, Partridge and Buff Cochins. Shipped on approval. Box B, Schenectady, N. Y.

JAPANESE, ROSE COMBS, FRIZZLES, Polish, Cochins, Silkies, Sultans. No circular. M. Hurd, Marshall, Mich.

BANTAMS, EGGS, 34 VARIETIES. SEND 2-cent stamp for circular. A. A. Fenn, Box 92, Delavan, Wis.

GOLDEN SEABRIGHT BANTAMS. Prizewinners. Will sell all my old birds cheap. Eggs, \$1.50 for 13. Fred Klitz, Seven Valleys, Pa.

HOUDANS

HOUDANS—NOTHING BUT HOUDANS. Eggs, \$2 per 15, from the largest Houdan breeder in Colorado—three yards. C. G. Walton, Ni Wot, Colo.

Lloyd C. Mishler, secretary, North Manchester, Ind.

For Show Secretaries: Kindly remember that the International Rose Comb Black Minorca Club will give one fine silk badge each for best cock, best hen, best cockerel, best pullet and best pen at your show. As these awards are made only to members of the club we advise all who wish to compete for these prizes to send \$2 to Lloyd C. Mishler, secretary, North Manchester, Ind., which pays for initiation and dues to July 1, 1913. Those winning the largest number of ribbons in each State will be given State championship. We want notice to this effect printed in your premium list. Lloyd C. Mishler, secretary, North Manchester, Ind.

The Butler County Poultry and Pet Stock Association will hold their ninth annual show in the Atwell Auto Garage, Butler, Pa., on January 28, 29, 30, 31 and February 1, 1913. The hall is a spacious, well lighted and splendidly ventilated room, and affords a fine place to hold such an exhibition. Many new and attractive displays are being arranged for and all the members are hustling to make the ninth annual the best in the association's history. Our show has the endorsement of the Butler Chamber of Commerce and the Butler Business Men's Association who are doing all they can to make this year's show a grand success in every way. At the annual meeting held September 20, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, John S. Campbell; first vice president, W. H. Young; second vice president, P. E. Cronenwett; secretary-treasurer, David H. Rankin. Executive board; L. R. McAboy, E. A. Black, Frank Hinchberger, S. G. Lutz, J. S. Campbell, W. H. Young, P. E. Cronenwett and David H. Rankin.

Show Dates

NOVEMBER.

Nov. 20-22—Holyoke, Mass. Percy M. Alden, Secretary, Willimansett, Mass.
Nov. 25-30—Little Rock, Ark. James V. Johnson, Secretary.
Nov. 25-30—Pittsburgh, Pa. A. J. Heming, Secretary.

DECEMBER.

Dec. 2-9—Dodge City, Kans. Ralph Burnett, Secretary.
Dec. 3-6—Keosauqua, Iowa. H. J. Wilkins, Secretary.
Dec. 3-7—New York, N. Y. Palace Show, L. D. Howell, Secretary, Mineola, N. Y.
Dec. 3-7—Reading, Pa. C. H. Glass, Secretary.
Dec. 3-12—Sewickley, Pa. A. C. Schlumpf, Secretary.
Dec. 4-7—Stroudsburg, Pa. E. M. Paxton, Secretary.
Dec. 4-8—Quincy, Ill. A. D. Smith, Secretary.
Dec. 8-13—Colorado Springs, Colo. J. R. Lowe, Secretary.
Dec. 9-14—Princeton, Ind. John W. Corder, Secretary.
Dec. 9-14—Vandergrift, Pa. Jas. McFetridge, Secretary.
Dec. 10-13—Buckhannon, W. Va. A. S. Watkins, Secretary.
Dec. 10-14—Lebanon, Pa. Samuel Black, Secretary.
Dec. 10-14—Philadelphia, Pa. Wm. H. Moore, Secretary, 437 Chestnut st.
Dec. 10-14—Springfield, Mo. T. E. Quisenberry, Secretary, Mountain Grove Mo.
Dec. 11-14—Douglassville, Pa. Chas. G. Rhoads, Secretary.
Dec. 15-20—Jefferson City, Mo. W. W. Graves, Secretary.
Dec. 16-21—Geneva, N. Y. H. W. Closs, Secretary, Canandaigua, N. Y.
Dec. 17-20—Waterbury, Conn. John J. O'Connor, Secretary.
Dec. 17-20—Cruming, N. Y. M. B. Coger, Secretary.
Dec. 17-22—Pattle Creek, Mich. R. S. Lawrence, Secretary.
Dec. 19-22—New Orleans, La. R. E. Bruce, Secretary.
Dec. 23-26—Wapakoneta, Ohio. Phon Agne, Secretary.
Dec. 30-Jan. 4—Upper Sandusky, Ohio. I. R. Manli, Secretary.
Dec. 30-Jan. 4—Rochester, N. Y. F. A. Newman, Secretary.

Dec. 31-Jan. 4—Lewistown, Pa. Robert S. Foster, Secretary.

JANUARY, 1913.

Jan. 1-3—De Soto, Mo. John J. Schmidt, Secretary.
Jan. 6-10—Geneseo, N. Y. Lewis G. Stapley, Secretary.
Jan. 6-11—Meadville, Pa. A. W. Elsworth, Secretary.
Jan. 6-11—Schenectady, N. Y. H. J. Fuller, Secretary.
Jan. 6-12—Springfield, Ill. T. E. McCoy, Secretary.
Jan. 7-10—Norfolk, Va. J. D. Griffin, Secretary.
Jan. 7-10—Spartanburg, S. C. B. L. Blackwell, Secretary.
Jan. 10-14—Charlotte, N. C. S. H. Hackney, Secretary.
Jan. 13-17—Albany, N. Y. A. F. Hill, Jr., Secretary.
Jan. 13-18—Beardstown, Pa. V. L. Adelman, Secretary.
Jan. 13-18—Auburn, N. Y. C. K. Nesbitt, Secretary.
Jan. 13-18—B'ackwell, Okla. Geo. M. Carson, Secretary.
Jan. 13-18—Pittsburgh, Pa. W. P. Craig, Secretary.
Jan. 14-17—Middletown, Conn. S. H. Stiles, Secretary.
Jan. 14-17—Washington, D. C. E. C. Duffy, Secretary, 427 I St. N. W.
Jan. 14-18—Richmond, Va. G. E. Guvernator, Secretary.
Jan. 20-25—Cleveland, Ohio. J. T. Conkey, Secretary.
Jan. 21-25—Lonaconing, Md. D. A. Edwards, Secretary.

"Red Hen Tales" for 1912 now out, containing valuable hints on breeding reds and a complete history of Club to date, free to every Red breeder who joins the Rhode Island Red Club of America.

FEE FOR JOINING \$1.00

"Red Hen Tales," 25 cents per copy to non-members. Stamps not received.

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Eggs for Hatching \$1.50 per Setting
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After buying 600 chicks out of brooders of other makes in one season, due to crowding and suffocation, we produced this Scientific-Fireless-Brooder.

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Use these Life-Saving-Stations, if you raise a few or many chicks.

NEW, ORIGINAL AND ESSENTIAL FEATURES

Brooding chicks separately to prevent crowding and suffocation, preserving body heat and ventilation for entire flock—90% saved over any other brooder. Bottoms drop down for cleaning without removing the chicks from brooder—perfect ventilation—no drafts—body heat preserved—legs detachable for use outdoors, with runs.

A REAL MOTHER HEN

Send 2-cent stamp for catalogue fully describing Simplicity Sanitary Brooder, with photographs showing parts. Harry D. Moore, State Sales Manager, 1829 Baker St., Baltimore, Md.

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FROM STANDARD BRED WINNERS AT NEW YORK, CHICAGO, BOSTON, ST. LOUIS AND CLEVELAND. EGG RECORD 280. EVERY CHICK GUARANTEED. Barred White and Buff Rocks, Brown, White and Buff Leghorns, Black, White and Buff Orpingtons, White Wyandottes, R. I. Reds, Black Minorcas, Anconas, Baby I. R. Ducks. Safe arrival guaranteed. Price, 8c up.

FIRELESS BROODER

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ANCONAS—CINCINNATI AND COLUMBUS Ohio State Show, First Prize Winners. Stock, eggs, baby chicks. Write for free catalogue. Evans & Timms, Box W, Malta, Ohio.

ANCONAS—SHEPPARD STRAIN. Living egg machines. Stock for sale. (Rev.) E. H. Keator, Franklin Park, N. J.

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IMPROVED SILVER CAMPINES. Excellent layers of large white eggs. Small feeders, hardy, vigorous, easy to raise. Eggs, \$5 per 13. J. L. Paulhamus, Dewart, Pa.

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LIGHT BRAHMAS. THE PURE OLD Strain of Personal Merit. Prize winning matings. Eggs, \$3 per setting. Fine Markings. Heavy layers. A. M. Jacoby, Harrisburg, Pa.

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DARK CORNISH STOCK AND EGGS FOR Sale, also Buff Turkey Toms. Circular free. M. J. Van Eman, Box E, Elgin, Ohio.

FAVEROLLES

ENGLISH SALMON FAVEROLLES AND Lakenfelders. Going west, must sell all my prize winners at a price that will surprise you. C. J. Swanson, Sycamore, Ill.

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CARTER'S DOMINIQUE WON EVERY first prize at the last Boston show in a hot class. Beautiful cockerels and pullets for sale, low. A. Q. Carter, Freeport, Me.

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EGGS AND BABY CHICKS FROM MY grand prizewinners. White and Brown Leghorns, Anconas, Houdans, Brahmas, Reds, Rocks, White Minorcas and Rose Comb and Single Comb Black Minorcas. Eggs, \$1 per 15; chicks, 12 to 15 cents each. Stamps for replies. Louis Waber, New Galilee, Pa.

SIXTY EGGS, \$3; 15, \$1; TWO MEDICATED nest eggs with each order. 26 varieties. Poor hatches duplicated at half price. 26 years as breeders. Circular free. Whitney & Son, Triangle, N. Y.

CHICKENS, EGGS. 22,000 CAPACITY. Barred, White and Buff Rock and Reds. 15 years through culling and selecting for health, vigor and great laying qualities. Safe arrival guaranteed. Brooks Farrar, South Easton, Mass.

EGGS FROM LARGE BLACK COCHINS, Buff Frizzles, Crested Ducks and Sebright Bantams. All varieties Fancy and Utility Pigeons. Stamp. J. H. Sell, Jr., Hanover, Pa.

I AM BOOKING ORDERS FOR EGGS. Best strain of S. C. White Leghorns. A few White Orpington Cockerels for sale. Address Mrs. Dora Brown, 4027 Belle Ave., N. Forest Park, Baltimore, Md.

EGGS FOR HATCHING—LIGHT AND Buff Brahmas, \$2 per 15. If you want good winter layers try mine. C. C. Arnold, Millers Falls, Mass.

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PHEASANT EGGS—FROM PEN RAISED, Unrelated Birds. Golden, Silvers, Japanese, Reeves, Amberst, Swinehaes, Elliotts, English Ring and Blue Necks. Send for catalogue. Broadway Pheasants, Geneva, Ohio.

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COOK'S PIONEER WHITE-EGG STRAIN of American standard fawu and white Indian Runners. Fine males reasonable. Eggs: 12, \$5; 24, \$8; 50, \$15; 100, \$30. Circular. Irving E. Cook, Munnsville, N. Y.

PEKIN DUCKS AND TOULOUSE GEESSE winners at Madison Square, Hagerstown, Philadelphia, etc. Send for circular giving prices and list of winnings. W. W. Thomas, Catlett, Va.

INDIAN RUNNER AND MAMMOTH Pekin Ducks, 13 Eggs, \$1. Bred under ideal conditions and from first-class stock. Thirty-six page poultry catalogue. Clarence Shenk, Luray, Va.

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FOR SALE—RABBIT, FOX, COON, Opossum, Skunk, Deer, Bear, Wolf Bloodhounds, Setters, Pointers, Pigeons, Ferrets. Free list. Brown's Kennels, York, Pa.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE FOR FIRE-arms, Boston Bull Dog or Airedale Terrier—One Seneca view camera, 4 x 5, as good as new, never been used but two months. I. E. Featherston, Au Sable Forks, N. Y.

FOR SALE—40 ONE-YEAR-OLD S. C. W. Leghorn hens and 50 March and April hatched pullets. Mrs. C. W. Dering, Charlestown-Kanawha, W. Va.

FOR SALE—EGGS FROM MY 1912 S. C. White Orpington winners, from \$1.50 to \$4 per 15. Cook strain. Send for mating list. A few choice cockerels from \$3 to \$5. Bert A. Thompson, Box 700, Groveland Sta., N. Y.

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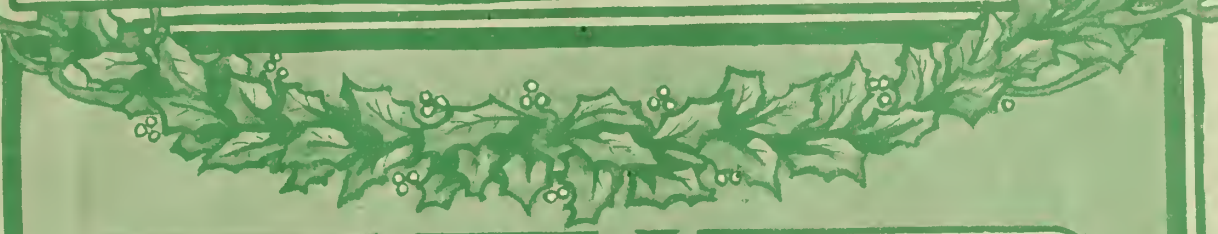
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BY LYNN C. TOWNSEND

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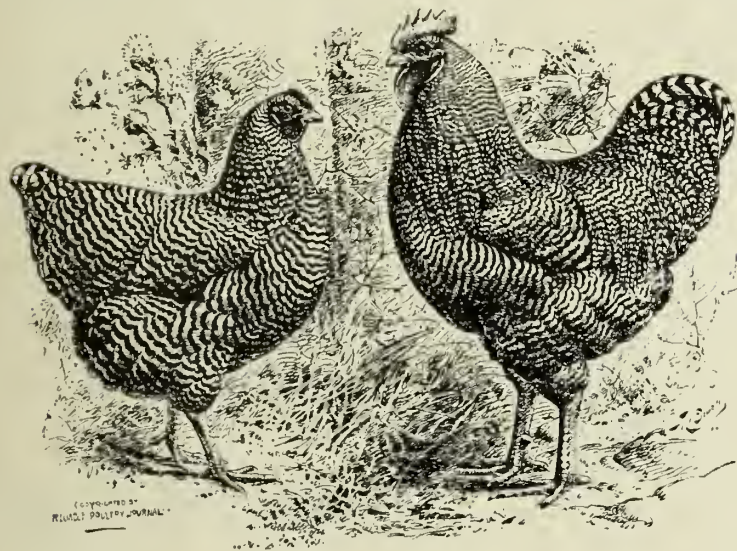
In egg farming, many disagreeable features of poultry raising are eliminated. Breeding will need to be done on no small scale, for you should use no males in your egg pens. Supposing, of course, that you cater to the public trade, the eggs will not need to be fertilized, and will keep much longer for not being so. You should mate up

faith in the variety you choose, but look over the birds yourself. The strain and the way they have been bred make much more difference than the breed itself.

The surest way of telling the layers from the drones is by the trap-nest. This is something that is essential for all poultrymen and your plant is incomplete without them. Keep a strict record and then dispose of the hens that are not laying as well as they should.

A very common mistake is the keeping of hens to an age when they have passed their usefulness. This is frequently done because of the feeling that the hens are unusually good ones, when really a hen more than two years old is less valuable than one younger. It is a good idea to mark all chicks when hatched, so that you could readily, by selection, keep your flocks down to pullets and one-year-old birds.

And just a word in regard to marketing your products. By all means build up a fancy trade and cater to private families. In this way you save the middleman's profits, and will al-



Pair Barred Plymouth Rocks

enough pens each year to enable you to raise the next season's layers. You can then breed from your best birds, but if you do not care to bother with chick raising, pullets can be purchased. If you buy baby chicks, or hatch from your own eggs, the cockerels can usually be disposed of at a good price as breeders, if your stock is of good quality. Just because you are keeping your poultry for utility purposes, do not think that "a hen is a hen, and all hens are alike." There is a great difference in hens, and if you keep a pen of standard-bred birds and a pen of mongrels under the same conditions, you will soon notice the difference. It has been proven many times that a pure-bred hen is far superior to her scrub sister. You want to keep the hen that pays, so, therefore, select some pure-bred variety that has been bred with this object in view.

You need no "\$10,000 antique" in your flock to increase your egg records. Have nothing to do with men having "300 eggs per year strain," or people advertising hens that lay "267 eggs in 268 days." Those birds are too fast for the average person. Do not put too much

ways have a ready sale for your products, because goods known to be fresh and good in every respect will be in greater demand than eggs or fowls that have been in cold storage for an indefinite period. Always guarantee your products to be perfectly fresh, wholesome and produced under sanitary conditions. Then live up to your guarantee. Pack your wares in attractive boxes or cartons bearing your advertisement. Stamp each egg with the date on which it was laid. If you surplus stock is of good quality, you can usually sell it at much higher prices than the market quotes, by advertising the breeders. Always meet a dissatisfied customer half way. Advertising, even if in the utility business, is a good idea and will get you new customers.

Remember, it costs no more to keep a good hen than it does to keep a poor one. Try this yourself, and you will be convinced of the fact, and will then keep nothing but pure-bred stock.

Although hens have been known to lay exceptionally well in their third and fourth year, yet the second year is the average limit of their useful-

ness. "The hen that lays is the hen that pays," and as you want the paying kind, you must keep the laying kind. Breed from your best layers. Keep strict accounts and records of everything, and grow, slow but sure.

An Open Letter to Buyers and Shippers of Eggs

It is a conservative estimate that more than \$45,000,000 is lost in the egg-producing sections annually because of improper handling. This enormous loss is due to small eggs, cracked and broken eggs, dirty, stale, heated (hatched) and rotten eggs. Just think of the waste this sum means, from the time the mother hen loses from her business of egg laying in order to hatch and bring up the hens that lay these wasted eggs, to the money that the housewife pays for the bad egg that can not be used. It is a loss to you, to the farmer, to every one in the egg business, and to the consumer. Will you assist us in our effort to save this loss and to improve the egg that finally gets to market?

When farmers, peddlers, merchants, etc., come to you with eggs for sale talk to them about the improvement of the market egg, and enlist their co-operation in the elimination of this great loss. Here are some of the fundamental points to be considered by all egg men, whether producers, shippers, or middlemen:

1. Encourage the production of large eggs. This can be accomplished by keeping pure bred "general purpose" breeds of fowls, hatching only the eggs that weigh at least two ounces apiece and from only the most vigorous stock. A higher price for large than for small eggs will help along the argument.

2. Infertile eggs do not hatch, do not form blood rings and seldom form black rots. If the male birds are sold or penned up after June 1 the flock of hens will lay more eggs and they will be infertile.

3. A year-round observation of New York egg receipts showed that over 12 per cent were dirty shelled, and sold for a lower price on this account. You should buy these dirty eggs at a lower price, for you are paid less for them. If one nest is provided for each six hens, in a cool, dark place, kept clean and vermin free, dirty eggs will be reduced to a minimum.

4. More than 10 per cent of the eggs received in New York during the year are "seconds" because they are stale. Tell your egg men that gathering eggs every afternoon, or twice daily in hot or murky weather, keeping them in a cool, clean, dry place until marketed, and marketing at least once a week and more frequently in the summer time, will reduce the number of stale eggs greatly. Of course, stale eggs are worth less money than fresh eggs all along the line.

5. Can you convince your trade that eggs from stolen nests and from incubators are never fit for sale? If the farmer thinks they are good, reliable food, urge him to eat them at home. For, since the egg buyer can afford to pay more for large, clean, fresh, whole-shelled eggs, it is good business for the farmer to use small, dirty, cracked eggs at home.

6. Do you know how to candle eggs? If not, learn, and learn quickly! There is no other way by which you can determine the worth of what you are paying for. Having yourself learned how to grade eggs, show the merchants, peddlers and farmers in your neighborhood, by means of the candle, what

kind of eggs they are bringing to you. Farmers are not scamps, nor egg buyers angels. Show the farmer the kind of eggs you can not pay for and he will find a way to eliminate the bad egg and to make the good egg even better.

7. When first quality eggs come to your packing house what means do you take to keep them so until they get to market? To build up and keep a good reputation for your output you must grade carefully and uniformly; pack in good fillers, flats and cases; ship quickly and under good conditions. If you would be classed among up-to-date shippers you must have mechanical refrigeration that the chilling of the egg may begin the minute you receive it. Candle in a room where the temperature does not go above 55 degrees Fahrenheit. Ship chilled, in a good refrigerator car, in car lots. If you can not chill the eggs before shipping, use a refrigerator car, well iced, and ship only the minimum load, that the eggs may receive the benefit of the ice before the market is reached.

Send this letter, or copies of it, to the egg people in your vicinity.

M. E. PENNINGTON, Ph. D.

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Year's Final Results in National Egg Laying Contest

The Method of Feeding, Interesting Facts, and Some Lessons Learned from the First Annual Contest Are Told

The first Missouri National Egg Laying Contest closed at the State Poultry Experiment Station at Mountain Grove, Mo., on October 31. The results have been very satisfactory, so much so that another one began November 15. Seven hundred hens, representing 20 varieties of poultry, and gathered from England, Canada and 20 States of the United States, will compete in the next contest. The following varieties will be represented by 30 hens each, all having exactly the same number of pens: Anconas, Black Langshans, S. C. White Leghorns, R. C. White Leghorns, S. C. Brown Leghorns, S. C. Buff Leghorns, Black Minorcas, Buff Orpingtons, White Orpingtons, Black Orpingtons, Barred Plymouth Rocks, Buff Plymouth Rocks, Partridge Plymouth Rocks, White Plymouth Rocks, S. C. Rhode Island Reds, R. C. Rhode Island Reds, Buff Wyandottes, Silver Wyandottes, Partridge Wyandottes, and White Wyandottes. All pens were filled 30 days before the second contest was scheduled to begin, and more than fifty entries had to be returned.

The results of the first contest have not been especially startling, and neither have we proven or attempted to prove that any one variety possessed all the good qualities. The leading pen was No. 107, R. C. Rhode Island Reds, which made a record of 1,042 eggs for five hens, or an average of over 208 eggs per hen. The best individual record was made by Lady Showyou, White Plymouth Rock hen, No. 717, which laid 281 eggs in twelve months. This hen lacked one egg of equalling the best record in this country, which was 282 eggs by a Barred Rock hen at Guelph, Canada. Lady Showyou, however, laid a full sized egg weighing on an average a little more than two ounces each and with a good strong shell on each egg. We are told by Professor Graham, of Guelph, that his 282-egg hen laid a very small egg with a very poor shell; so Lady Showyou was far the most remarkable performer of the two when these facts are considered.

There were 655 hens in this contest and they laid a total of 87,843 eggs, or an average of over 134 eggs per hen. Considering the fact that more than a dozen pens lacked two or three months of being mature at the time the contest began, and also considering the fact that more than half of the pens were made up of hens and several of them contained hens three and four years old, we are reasonably well satisfied. When we consider the fact that most of these birds had been carelessly and promiscuously bred, with no special idea to increase egg production, and came from all classes of breeders, and considering the fact that the average hen lays only 80 eggs per year, we do not feel that 134 eggs per hen is a bad average for such a promiscuous lot of stock as this.

The following have been the prize winners for the contest just closed:

FOR BEST PEN RECORDS.

First prize, Pen No. 107—R. C. Rhode Island Reds, D. E. Hall, California, Mo., 1,042 eggs. Cash, \$25, State Poultry Board; silver cup, value \$75, Zenner Disinfectant Co., Detroit, Mich.; cash, \$25, Western Poultry Journal, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; silver cup, value \$25, Poultry Culture, Topeka,

Kans; six trap nests, A. L. Glass, Hopkins, Mo.; Standard Model Incubator, Robert Essex Incubator Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Second prize, Pen No. 52—White Wyandottes, P. J. Jansen, Little Rock, Ark., 1,015 eggs. Cash, \$15, State Poultry Board; silver cup, value, \$30, T. H. Purple, Constantine, Mich.; No. 2 Standard Cyphers Incubator, Cyphers Incubator Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Third prize, Pen No. 13—S. C. W. Leghorns, Walter Hogan, Petaluma, Cal., 991 eggs; Cash, \$10, State Poultry Board; No. 1 Standard Cyphers Incubator, Cyphers Incubator Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Fourth prize, Pen No. 85—B. P. Rocks, Brooks Sanitary Hennyery, Morgan Park, Ill., 967 eggs. No. 0 Standard Cyphers Incubator, Cyphers Incubator Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

FOR BEST INDIVIDUAL RECORDS.

First prize, Pen No. 717—White Plymouth Rock, J. A. Bickerdike, Millersville, Ill., 281 eggs. Cash, \$25, State Poultry Board; No. 3 Standard Cyphers Incubator, Cyphers Incubator Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Second prize, Pen No. 602—R. C. R. I. Reds, D. E. Hall, California, Mo., 255 eggs. Silver cup, T. E. Quisenberry, Mountain Grove, Mo.

Third prize, Pen No. 381—B. P. Rock, M. W. Baldwin, Sioux City, Iowa, 245 eggs. Silver cup, State Poultry Board.

GENERAL AVERAGES.

The average number of eggs laid by each hen and the average amount of feed consumed by each hen of those varieties which had ten or more hens entered, and which averaged more than 120 eggs per hen for the year, are as follows:

	Eggs Per Hen	Grain, Lbs.	Dry Mash, Lbs.
Silver Wyandottes	160	35	35.3
S. C. Reds	156	35	38.6
Black Langshans	156	35	50
Black Orpingtons	155	35	44
White Orpingtons	150	35	39
R. C. Reds	150	35	32.6
Buff Orpingtons	147	35	30.3
S. C. Black Minorcas	145	35	44
S. C. White Leghorns	143	34.8	32
Anconas	139	34.8	30.5
Indian Runner Ducks	131		121
R. C. White Leghorns	127	34.8	23.3
Barred Plymouth Rocks	126	35	44.2
White Wyandottes	125	35	33
S. C. Brown Leghorns	122	34.8	31.5
Buff Plymouth Rocks	120	34	45

The above includes good and bad producers and both young and old hens. Several varieties ran considerably below these in average eggs per hen, but about same amount of food consumed. The cost of the grain fed these hens averaged about one and one-third cents per pound, and the cost of the dry mash was nearly two cents per pound. It can be seen from the above how far the Australians are in advance of the breeders of this country in breeding for egg production. The leading pen in this contest averaged more than 208 eggs per hen, but the leading pen in an Australian contest which recently closed averaged more than 250 eggs per hen. Also, in the same Australian contest, 360 hens gathered from sixty different breeders made an average of nearly 200 eggs per hen for the entire 360 hens. But they

have been conducting these contests in that country for ten years or longer and the people have been educated to breed for egg production. We hope to stimulate some such effort in this country. The average farm hen does not lay more than eighty eggs per year at present. If we can even raise the average to 150 or 160 eggs per hen, we can more than double or treble the profit in poultry to the average breeder, for he can get this increase in most cases with but little if any additional cost for houses, feed and stock.

THE HOUSES USED.

The houses used were 8 x 10 feet. Each had two ordinary stationary shutters for ventilation in the front part of the house. These have proven to be far better than an open front or curtain front, even in the severest weather. Two window sash were used in the front and two in the rear of the house under the droppings board. A ventilator was placed in the rear, just beneath the eaves. Each had droppings board, roosts and feed hoppers. Each house was divided in the center by a partition.

THE TRAP NESTS.

Each house was fitted with two styles of trap nests, one a wooden, home-made nest, and the other a galvanized-iron manufactured nest. Both were very satisfactory. The galvanized nest proved the most satisfactory of all nests we have tried out. It was most sanitary, most reliable, and easiest operated.

THE METHOD OF FEEDING.

Grain Mixture—200 pounds cracked corn; 200 pounds wheat; 100 pounds oats.

Dry Mash Fed in a Hopper—100 pounds wheat bran; 200 pounds middlings or shorts; 200 pounds corn meal; 200 pounds rolled or ground oats; 150 pounds dry beef scraps; 75 pounds alfalfa meal; 50 pounds gluten meal; 25 pounds O. P. oil meal; 8 pounds fine table salt; 25 pounds powdered charcoal.

The cost of this feed will, of course, vary in different localities. We find that the average cost to us for this feed for the year was about one and one-third cents per pound for the grain mixture and nearly two cents per pound for the dry mash mixture.

About one-half pint of the grain mixture was fed in the litter each morning to a pen of five hens. A slightly greater quantity was fed at night. This dry mash mixture was kept before the fowls at all times. At one o'clock each day, a handful of the same dry mash which had been moistened with butter-milk or skim milk was fed in a trough to each pen. We did not give them all they desired of this moistened mash, but just enough to add variety and to whet their appetites, and they literally

fought to get to it. We also gave each pen a handful of sprouted oats about this time each day. We discovered that they liked this kind of green food better than any other we could get. We also found that we could supply this kind of green food about as economically as any other and with as little trouble by properly preparing to sprout the oats. We never let the drinking pan go dry winter or summer and believe that a dry drinking pan will cut the egg yield as quickly as anything else, if not quicker. We used a small quantity of permanganate of potash in the drinking water to prevent colds and diseases. A small quantity of Epsom salts was fed in the moistened mash once or twice every month.

The only changes which will be made in this method of feeding for the contests are as follows:

Two parts of corn and one part of wheat will be the grain mixture for winter months, and one part of corn and two parts of wheat for the summer months. The oats will be eliminated from the grain mixture for the reason that the hull on the oats caused us some trouble. In order to overcome this loss of oats in the grain mixture, we have increased the amount of oats in the dry mash to three hundred pounds and also will continue the sprouted oats. We also expect to increase the dry beef scraps to two hundred and fifty pounds and the powdered charcoal to thirty-five pounds in the dry mash.

An Attic for Hatching

Dear Editor:

On July 10 we put two "experiment eggs," as we called them, in an old feather mattress in our garret, and are treating them just as we would eggs in an incubator, and if they hatch will write you further about them. I wonder if any of your readers ever thought of this plan? It seems odd, but I do not see why it should not work. Our attic is quite large, and a regular hot-box, and think how many eggs one could hatch in an attic!

"NELLIE."

A LARGE WEEKLY POULTRY PAPER

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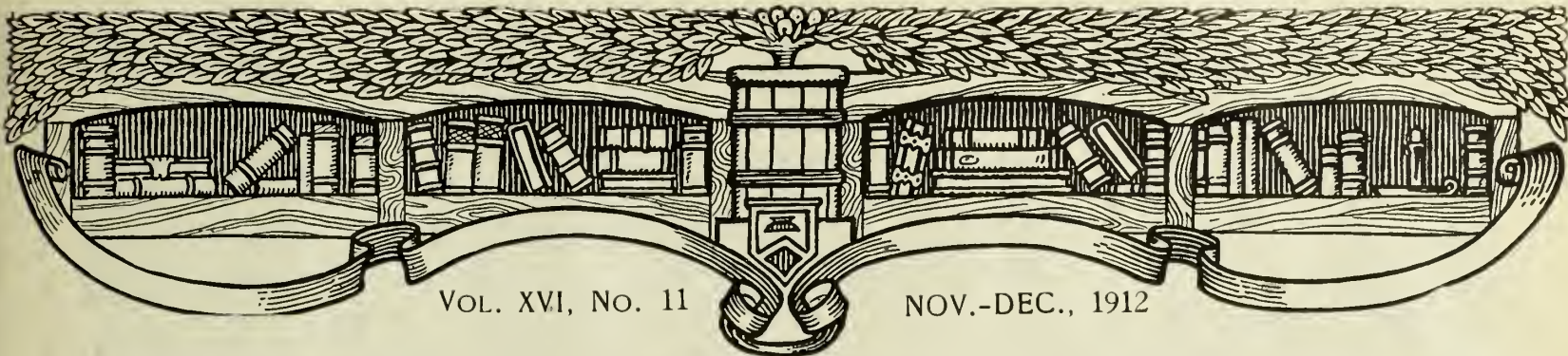
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M. Plummer McCullough
Box F - - - Mercer, Pa.





Editorial Comment

Much as is to be regretted the announcement is made that Washington will hold no show this winter. There are many reasons offered why such is the case, but the principal one is the lack of a suitable hall for holding a poultry show. This is an unreasonable state of affairs for a city of the size of Washington. Of course there are many and large halls in the Capital City, but they are situated "out of the zone of attendance" for a poultry show, and would not warrant the management in the additional expenditure for such an experiment. The time is near at hand when a suitable hall will be at the disposal of the management, and until then it will be a case of wait.

An expert is one who gets by the greatest number of stunts in the shortest space of time.

The lessons learned from the record of the Missouri egg-laying contest, which has just ended, tell some strange stories to the poultryman. These lessons are taken from the official record and can not be mistaken. Lesson 1 says, "That there is no variety or breed which far excels other varieties or breeds which are in general use as far as egg production is concerned." Lesson 2 says, "That more depends upon the strain of a variety as to the number of eggs it will produce than upon the variety itself."

Now, these two lessons are reasonable, and they have long been our ideas on this subject. Of course, there is no one best above all others in egg production, for if such was the case there would hardly be any further use of all the other breeds and varieties. The country is now saved and there is a chance for everybody with eggs soaring around sixty cents per dozen.

Some people do not realize that it is a dangerous thing to "chase the duck" too often.

When one expects to find perfection one needs to travel a long ways.

There has been an unusual amount of inquiry of late as to the possibilities of the poultry business being overdone. Surely the past season should satisfy everyone that for many years to come there will not be an excess of poultry or poultry products of any kind. Chickens, turkeys, ducks and geese as market poultry have all sold higher the past year than ever before. Even at this time, they are very high in the markets, the supply of turkeys said to be exhausted throughout the entire country and the storage houses empty. In the face of

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One Dollar Bill

and have your name put on the
Feather's List for Four Years

NOTICE:—We were compelled to issue the November and December numbers of The Feather jointly. This action will enable us to keep up regularly our dates of publication in the future.

these conditions one would scarcely imagine that for many years, at least, there would be an excess of these products.

Having faith is one thing, but the living up to that faith is another story.

If eggs are seventy-two cents a dozen in November, what will be the price of chicken in May?

Continually consider the manner of feeding that has the greatest influence at the least cost for the most profitable egg production. More protein all the time and continually during the winter months

is what the poultry needs. This is best obtained from wheat, hulled oats, alfalfa or clover-hay for them to scratch among and eat what they wish to have, some animal food and plenty of grit. We say hulled oats because it removes the necessity of the fowl grinding up and attempting to consume the indigestible hull of the oats, and provides them as food all the valuable part of the oats without the trouble of grinding up the husks. Nothing is better for a green food in winter than alfalfa or red clover-hay. Cut it short in the cutting box and let them eat all they want of it, but do not force them to eat more than they desire to have by feeding it to them in the mash feed. Add to this the wheat and some cracked corn, and you have a very good egg-producing diet along with some animal food, as meat of some kind is an absolute necessity, if you would gain the best results from laying hens in winter. One of the very best winter foods for green or vegetable food is the large mangel beet. These can be bought very cheaply and stored away in the cellar where they will keep all winter. Cut them lengthwise with a knife and give the hens what you know they will eat up in a single day, only leaving the shell or outside and leaving none of the mangel to be frozen in the henhouse. This manner of feeding is better than to give them turnips and cabbage as a green food. All the foods suggested above are good for egg production as well as very healthful for the fowl. Cleanliness of quarters, regularity in feeding, and good, dry quarters with the proper litter for them to scratch in, are the leading elements for success in the having of fresh-laid eggs in winter.

The Thanksgiving turkey is a hard thing to shake if one's digestion is bad.

It is easy to do a thing right if you only know how.

Having confidence in oneself equips you for stronger faith in others.

People who have had alfalfa hay for their hens the past winter report great results and benefits from it. Next to alfalfa or clover hay as a green food for hens are the mangel beets, of which the large white mangel-wurzel is the best variety. The hens like them, and they can be grown in large quantities on a very limited space. They are good feed, good for egg production and far ahead of cabbage, turnips or beets. Look out for having some of these even though you may have some alfalfa. A few of the mangels mixed in are very beneficial, and are graciously received by the hens.



History of Thanksgiving and the Turkey

How This Noble Bird Was Chosen to Adorn the Feast of the Gods

By M. K. BOYER

WE are told in history that William Bradford was a Colonial governor; that he was born in Austerfield, Yorkshire, England, March, 1590, and died in Plymouth, Mass., May 9, 1659. History further says that at an early age he joined the Puritan congregation at Scrooby Manor. Persecution arose in Nottinghamshire, and the Puritans, or Separatists, emigrated to Holland as they could find opportunity. After imprisonment and delay, Bradford and his companions reached Amsterdam in 1608, and joined the colony there, which in 1609 removed to Leyden, and in 1620 to America.

The Plymouth colony, leaving their native country in order to obtain a home where they might enjoy a greater religious freedom, ultimately landed at Cape Cod on November 1, and on December 22 made a permanent settlement in Patuxent, now called Plymouth. William Bradford was one of this number. From the spring of 1621 to 1657 Mr. Bradford was governor.

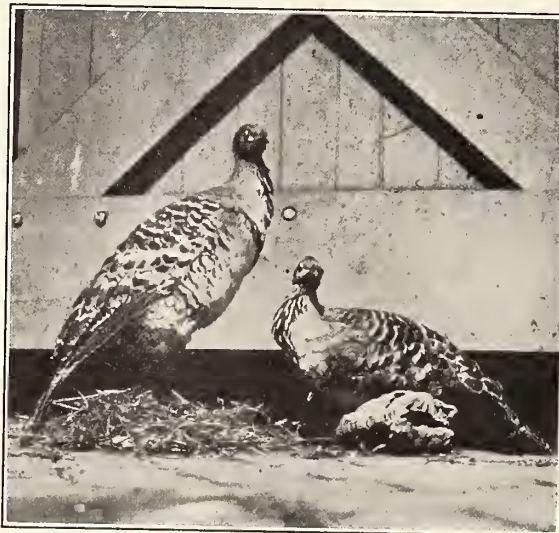
Now, all this is interesting in history, but how does it pertain to the turkey? The half has not been told.

William Bradford was elected to the office of Colonial governor in the State of Massachusetts, and, being a religious man, he conceived the idea to set aside a day each year for prayer and rejoicing for the early settlers of New England. This day was known as Thanksgiving. It was annually observed, and has been ever since.

On a day like this, how fitting to have an extra feast? What meat should adorn the festive board? The colonists were undecided. Some thought deer, others chose animal food of other kinds, but no one thought of turkey of which the woods were full.

A council was held, the savoriness of the bird was advocated, and the test was made. The results of that feast have ever since established the turkey as the bird of Thanksgiving feast.

Horace Vose, of Westerly, Rhode Island, never was in position to issue a proclamation, but, following out the lines of Governor Bradford, Mr.



These Are Domesticated

Vose devised a plan by which to make public servants rejoice—at least such servants as found favor in his eyes.

Those who know Horace Vose know that he is one of the kindest men ever created. He has a wonderfully large heart. He is the best of friends to those he loves—but a keen enemy to those who play him mean.

He wanted to express his thanks for "services rendered" in a substantial manner, and being a raiser of chestnut-fed turkeys, with the true wild blood in their veins, he conceived the idea of furnishing the festive boards of great men with his product. Among those that he has remembered are Presidents of the United States, Governors, and such noted personages as George Dewey and William J. Bryan.

In 1911 the writer was sent to Mr. Vose's home to interview him on the turkey question in general. The result of this trip is published in pamphlet form by Farm Journal, of Philadelphia, Pa. Mr. Vose was asked what his object was and is in making these annual presents. He said, sub-

stantially, that he came from the same stock that made the Plymouth colony possible—that he felt inspired by the spirit of Governor Bradford that caused the day of thanks to be set aside. Grant at this time was President, and one evening meditating, his thoughts went back to the cruel war, and, incidentally, to the daring work of Ulysses S. Grant. He remembered with pleasure how Grant came out of the conflict with laurels and how the people in consequence elected him to the highest honor in the land.

Would Grant accept a turkey for his Thanksgiving dinner? Would he take it in the spirit in which it was given? The experiment was made. A thirty-six pounder was duly shipped to the White House.

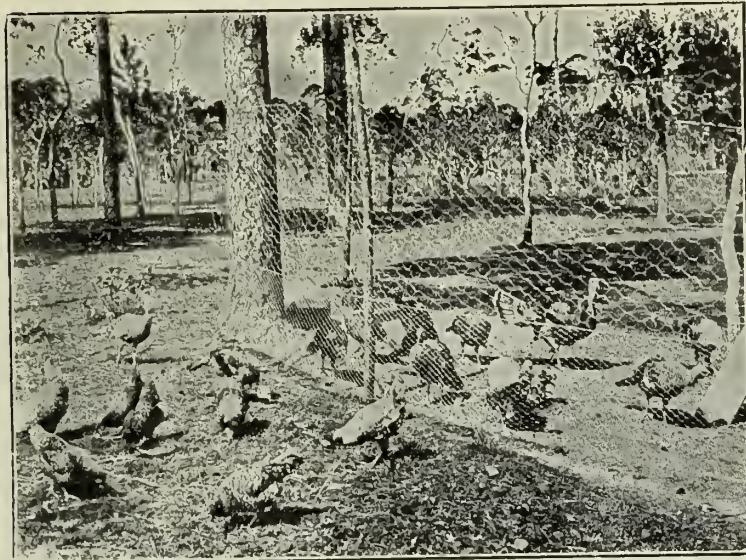
The experiment was a success. The act pleased Grant. He wrote a letter in reply in which he said the bird would be prepared for his dinner, and that the courtesy was very much appreciated.

Ever since that year, annually a bird went to the White House for the President, and all replied in a similar vein. Some went even farther. Cleveland proposed a fishing trip, and Roosevelt called Vose a trunp, adding that the White House dinner would not be complete without a turkey from him.

As already stated the Governors of Rhode Island are likewise remembered, as are also such statesmen that have found favor in the eyes of Horace Vose.

But Horace Vose does not stop with his gifts to the nobility. His heart also turns to the poor of his vicinity, and, annually, a large number of turkeys are sent to the homes that would not know the taste of turkey were it not for the generosity of this truly great man.

It is an interesting trip to drive over the hills of Rhode Island and Connecticut and look at the hundreds of turkeys in flocks. It is a sight never to be forgotten. The writer, in company with Horace Vose, spent days in these travels, going even as far as Lantern Hill, Upper Mystic, Connecticut, where at the home of Mrs. Sarah Main, a widow lady, a dinner was served fit for a king, and one which was highly relished.



In Special Breeding Pens

Lantern Hill is the highest elevation in that section of New England. It is ideal as a turkey-growing section—its woodlands, its hills, its fertile country, are all conducive to successful turkey culture. The turkeys seen at Mrs. Main's home were about the finest the writer ever saw.

All along those drives flocks of all sizes would be passed, and specimens of grandest proportions, filling out and getting themselves ready for Thanksgiving Day. This tour was made in September.

The turkeys of Rhode Island and Connecticut are different from those grown in other sections of the country. They are largely composed of wild blood. The Narragansett breed is generally used as a foundation, into which is infused wild blood, making a more juicy and finer flavor. On some farms the Bronze, and on others the Black varieties are the foundation stock, but the other breeds—White, Slate and Buff—are never seen.

The Narragansett is a New England production. It is a Yankee clean through. It is almost as large as the Bronze, of a strong and vigorous nature, an upright carriage, a proud gait and a full breast.

The wild blood is imported from the West and Canada, and also from the extreme South. Mr. Vose says the birds imported from the West and Southwest are the largest and finest specimens. The wild turkey keeps in the best of condition on less food than does the domesticated bird.

The wild blood infused into the domesticated bird gives the young a strong trait to care for themselves. This was shown very forcibly on our trip, where the young would wander at great distances from their parents, eagerly in search of food. But the vigilant eye of the mother hen would be on the alert for the intrusion of the enemy.

While on this trip to New England, the writer was apprised of the fact that annually the crop of turkeys in that section is growing less. It is the general belief by the farmers that this is due to the fact that there is a scarcity of the grasshopper crop, a natural food for the turkey. This seems to be a good time for such sections of the country where the grasshopper annually does a lot of damage to keep turkeys. The farmers told the writer that despite all their efforts, they could find no other cause, and they were firm in the belief that turkeys were the worst enemy of the grasshopper.

In selecting Bronze turkeys for breeding, the body should be long and deepest at the center, with a full breast, broad back, strong thighs, and

shanks of moderate length. In young birds the shanks are a dead black, but they grow lighter with age, until they finally become of a pinkish or flesh color.

The fact that turkeys are difficult to raise makes it all the more desirable that when brought to maturity they should be of the best, says an authority. This can be assured by breeding and feeding, but never by the hit-or-miss methods in vogue by the average breeder. Breed from the roundest birds; do not expect good market stock from long, lean progenitors.

Medium-sized carcasses sell best in market.

English poulterers prefer the American Bronze turkey to all others. One writer gives this tribute:

"There are two points to consider before choosing the breed of turkey, viz., whether the birds are to be reared with the purpose of making a profit from them, or whether they are only for home consumption. If the former, I have no hesitation in pronouncing for the American Bronze breed. For profit it is purely a question of obtaining birds of the heaviest possible weight when they are from six to nine months old. No variety is equal to the breed if profit is desired. To obtain turkey cockerels at Christmas, weighing twenty-four pounds when plucked, and hens fifteen

pounds in the same state, may fairly be considered good work from poult hatched the early part of May. No other variety will give such results.

"Therefore the American Bronze is the breed to select. Not only does this breed produce heavy weight, but quality of flesh is also obtained."

Medium-sized gobblers are best for mating. Turkey eggs are usually fertile and hatch well. Breed from choice old hens as long as they live. Much of the decline in turkey raising is due to the use of stock that have become sickly and degenerate from injudicious breeding.

The first requisite in turkey raising is good stock. It must be healthy, of good shape, with heavy bodies and not too much leg.

Turkeys can not stand confinement. It will cause them to lose flesh.

Three species of wild turkeys are described by writers as inhabiting Central America, Mexico, and the table land of the Rocky Mountains, closely resembling in plumage and habit the common wild turkey and the bush turkey, which is found in Australia and South America. The latter is not so handsome and requires a warmer climate than the North American turkey.

L. V. Hopkins thinks the delicacy of young turkeys is due in a measure to the rapidity with which feathers are grown. A young chicken retains its down for several weeks until its body is well grown, but a young turkey begins at once to put out large feathers on its wings and tail. This enormous feather growth saps the vitality of the body and leaves it an easy prey to weakness and disease.

There may be considerable in that opinion, but independent of it we believe there are three causes for failures in successful turkey raising.

First, unsuitable location. A damp soil, such as heavy, clay land, is most unsuitable. A very cold, exposed situation is also unsuitable.

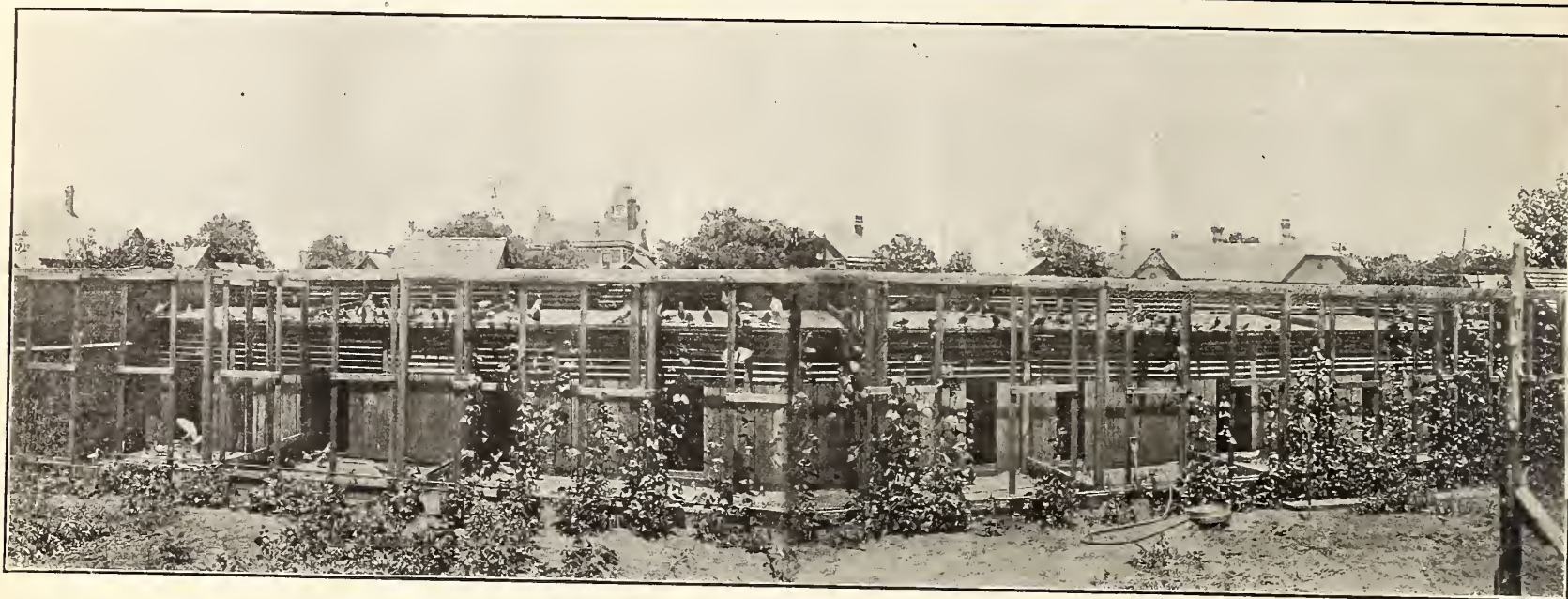
Second, immature breeding stock. To this we have already referred. It is not advisable to use cocks or hens under three years of age.

Third, inbreeding. This is probably the most common error, and the cause of much degeneracy among the stock. The sexes must not be related.

The turkey still clings to many of the characteristics of its wild state. It roams extensively, gathering much of its own food, and will hide its nest.



In Line for Battle



Growing Squabs for Market

CULTIVATION and care of squabs for market is becoming more and more attractive to a great many of the women throughout the country. We presume that the reason for this lies in the fact that it is a light kind of care for live-stock. In addition to this, women seem to be more successful in rearing young chicks and in growing squab breeders than are a larger proportion of the men engaged in similar pursuits. Patient care in attending to the many wants of these is essential to success, which the women apply to the best advantage.

A nicely arranged squab loft, not too far from the kitchen, may be so constructed as to be an ornamentation to the home. The house can be neatly built, the aviary constructed of wire cloth, all surrounded or hidden from view by a trellis work, upon which may be grown one or more varieties of the Rambler which adds such beauty wherever it is grown. Such a pigeon house would naturally become of great interest to the women provided they might have as their own the profit gained from rearing the squabs and selling them to market.

In writing of the care and management in growing squabs and also how to dispose of them, one woman states that she had some postal cards printed mentioning the fact that she could furnish squabs to private families, delivered at their door, ready for the spit, at \$1.50 per pair. This brought more orders than she could fill. Her squab loft became a possession of value to her. The continued demand for all she could produce warranted an increase of the plant which is now large enough to supply several dozen pairs each week.

Some women would not enjoy the care and attention necessary for such a business, while others are more than pleased at the opportunity of having possession of a pigeon loft with a fine lot of working pairs that produce one pair of squabs to each pair of breeders once in four weeks, bringing \$1.50 per pair if sold under the plan above mentioned, or somewhat less if sold in the open market or through a commission house.



A Fine Squab Breeder

The most successful results from squab growing to those having small plants come from selling the products to private families near at hand. Plump, fresh, well-dressed squabs can always be disposed of to the best advantage to someone near at hand. If would-be purchasers do not know of your ability to furnish squabs, the postal card system will quickly call their attention to the fact at a very small cost.

Highly favored food products of as delicate a character as squabs always have a large demand in the homes of people who like to dine well. It is only necessary to get in touch with this class to be able to dispose of all the squabs you can possibly grow at prices that will pay well for the care, trouble and expense of growing them. No one is anxious at any time or in any locality to purchase squabs that are of light weight or inferior quality. On the other hand, there is an almost countless throng that are even more than anxious to secure these delicate products, and would hail with delight the proposition that would bring to their door, dressed and ready for the spit, squabs of the best quality. Never, however, can squabs

of inferior quality be sold at profitable prices. They must tip the scales at not less than eight pounds to the dozen; if ten pounds to the dozen so much the better for the producer. From these weights to the full-pound-in-weight Jumbo squab ranges the degree in which will be found the profitable part of squab growing. Poor, indifferently grown lots are usually sold at a loss.

There does not seem to be any chance of a speedy relief from the seeming dishonest sale of pairs of squabs that are only pairs in count and not through mating. It is a most difficult task for anyone to select the male from the female pigeon. While every reasonable test is applied for proving the sex, it is almost impossible for anyone to be absolutely certain in the selection of male and female so as to assure an equal number of each in a shipment. Every one who sells squabs for breeders would be more than delighted to be quite certain that they always send out mated, working pairs to their customers. It is no advantage to them to send a surplus of their males or females in a shipment. They are in business to succeed, and would do everything within their power to gain their desire. No one would ever send unmated specimens if it could possibly be avoided.

Squabs, when properly grown, are so plump as to almost burst the skin that covers them. When poorly grown, they are of so little value as a table delicacy as to be almost useless. The difference in the price gained for squabs is entirely governed by the quality of the squabs themselves. Where they range about eight pounds to the dozen, they can always be profitably disposed of. Whenever they shrink below seven and one-half pounds per dozen they must be sold, if sold at all, at whatever price the market will pay for them. There is one prevailing law that governs the sale of products of all kinds for table purposes, and that is quality. Whenever high quality in squabs is offered for sale, they can be quickly disposed of, but when they are thin and unattractive in color, it is more difficult to sell them.

TIMELY TOPICS

By M. PLUMMER McCULLOUGH.

Mr. F. W. Warner, in the Poultry Times, writes about the "Utility Standard" in October number. Mr. Warner says in part: "Well, brother, which bunch of hen raisers are you going to line up with from this on? There is going to be a split in the party, it seems, and some of us have got to raise them for the shows and the dear poultry judges, and the rest of us to eat and to lay eggs. The Standard is busted and our friends of the A. P. A. have given us the choice of 'fancy or utility.' We have been striving years to model the shape of the tails of our fowls by lowering them so as to get away from the squirrel tails. Now, Friend Hale, of Illinois, is compiling data to show that the hens with the sharp up-standing tails are better layers than the ones with low tails, and I shall not be surprised in case of a utility standard being perfected that high tails will be one of the requirements."

As I understand Mr. Warner, he thinks that we are to have an illustrated utility standard giving illustrations of what live poultry for utility should be. Perhaps Mr. Warner is right, but I hardly think he is. My idea of the utility standard will be a standard of dressed poultry and eggs, and not of live poultry. They would find hard work to get up a better utility ideal than some of the American and English varieties that we have, just as they are. While I don't like high tails, I do feel sometimes that we are going most too far in our craze for low tails. Many a judge will place a low tailed bird higher in the awards than some of his competitors that are perhaps much better in other sections, and this is not right and should be discouraged as far as it goes. Medium low tails will do all right, but let us value them at what they are worth and no more. This thing of going from one extreme to another all the time is poor business and a very slow way to progress.

D. Lincoln Orr thinks well of the White Favorolles. In R. P. J. he writes: "Last spring I bought a trio of White Favorolles from Miss Carey, England. While with so few birds and such a limited time it is not possible to judge for sure, I must say that they have gone way beyond my expectations. They are the best layers I have and they outgrow my Columbians. They are strong, big, healthy chicks, and grow just wonderfully. If they have the ability to keep up to the record they have made for me, they will, in a few years, I predict, be among the leaders in the production of eggs and meat for the table. Never have I had such hardy chicks and never have I had such wonderful growth. I have always rather looked down on new breeds, but this one has firmly convinced me that no one should sneer at new breeds."

We have been wondering if Mr. Orr won't drop his Columbian Wyandottes for the White Favorolles. He has been standing by the Columbians for the past few years through thick and thin and has said it is in their utility qualities that they excelled.

White Favorolles may catch a few who are anxious for new breeds, but I don't expect to ever see them very popular in America. It is only a very few years ago that the Salmon Favorolles and the Lakenvelders were widely

advertised in the United States, but you hear nothing of them now at all. A new broom sweeps clean, and when the newness gets worn off it is just about the same as the old.

Judge H. P. Schwab, in American Poultry Journal, writes: "Males in particular should have the best of care with an extra allowance of food. These gallant fellows will miss many a meal where the food is a question of grab, for they will look to the wants of their mates instead of feeding. Nail a cup in each pen above the reach of the females and keep it full."

Dr. P. T. Woods, in the same journal, says, "Drinking water is quite as necessary as food this time of year if the birds are to do well. See that they have an abundance of good, clean, fresh water in clean fountains or pails every day and see that they get it early in the morning. Foul drinking water and spoiled grain are two of the most dangerous sources of poultry diseases that we have."

We most heartily agree with Dr. Woods and can say that pure water is just as necessary to good health in poultry and live stock as in humans, and you know how readily bad water will make trouble in the human family.

In a recent number of Poultry Keeper F. E. Macha tells about sending for a R. C. Brown Leghorn cockerel for 50 cents, and he says he got a real good bird. At market price the bird would have brought 28 cents, and Mr. Macha figures the seller made a profit of 22 cents, which he would not have made if sold for market. Mr. Macha further says: "I have always preached that one dollar was about right to charge for a good bird. Likely she did not read about the high-priced poultry fanciers and decided to take 50 cents in preference to 7 cents per pound on the market."

I will have to give Mr. Macha about two minutes of my time, as a man who believes a "good bird" can be bought for a dollar is not worth more. In the first place, we would like to ask Mr. Macha if he ever raised and sold many hundreds of good birds at one dollar. And if so, after you counted out your feed bills, advertising bills, postage bills, shipping boxes, tags, printing, etc., to say nothing of your own time, about how many dollars did you lose on each bird? It seems to me absurd that any one should argue in this day of the world that \$1 was enough to pay for a bird. Any good, big bird will bring that on the market and if Mr. Macha is in a community where poultry is only 7 cents per pound we feel sorry for him and wish to tell him he is about twenty years behind the times. If no one was to pay more for breeding birds than Mr. Macha, the poultry shows would be no more. The poultry journals would have to quit business and the poultry business would be wrecked in general. It cost the writer in the neighborhood of one dollar to raise a White Rock to maturity and you have dozens of small bills between you and your customers after that. It is absolutely foolish for a man to talk about selling birds at \$1 each. If your birds are not worth more than that you had better butcher them, because if they are worth advertising at all they are worth more than \$1 each. No, Mr. Macha, you will have

to get over your dollar talk and get down to good business. Anyone who knows much about poultry will not expect to buy poultry of good breeding and quality at \$1 each. If you buy cheap stuff you will have cheap stuff. It pays in the end to have good stock and good stock is worth good prices, and don't you forget it.

Just what are uniform prices for stock is a question that few care to answer because it depends on the show record the seller has and it depends upon how bad he wants to sell, and sometimes it depends on how bad you want to buy. For \$2 we can expect a good utility bird that is free from disqualifications, but little more, although some of the smaller breeders sell some fairly good birds for this amount. For \$5 we can expect a real good bird in every way. He should be of good shape and color, with fair comb, eyes, etc., and while not a show bird, he will do to exhibit at small local shows or fall fairs, and will often be among the winners. Ten dollars will buy an extra good breeding bird.

Mr. H. Babcock, in Poultry Fancier, says: "The latest solution of the color breeding problem in Barred Rocks is the proposal of F. W. Proctor that the variety should be divided into two distinct standard varieties, the pullet breeding to be known as the Light Plymouth Rocks, and the cockerel breeding to be known as the Dark Plymouth Rocks. We venture the prediction that this proposal is in advance of the desires of breeders and the time is not yet ripe for its adoption. Mr. Proctor also suggests that the name of Light Brahmas be changed to Columbian Brahmas, as this is the term now used to designate this kind of color in Rocks and Wyandottes."

Mr. Proctor is surely ahead of the times. We don't believe he will ever see the names changed as he suggests. The breeders would not stand for such rot. The name Barred Plymouth Rock has stood by the oldest variety of the Rock family so long it is now pretty late to be talking about changing it. The same holds true of the Light Brahmas and we don't believe that any changes in names are needed by these varieties. We never saw a name changed anyway but what it was made worse, and I think we had better let well enough alone.

Thomas F. Rigg said some time ago, when writing about "Rule 17," that the two most competent judges in America are connected with the Poultry Press. Since then Mr. Rigg has been challenged to name the two best judges in "all America," and he replies in R. P. J., that in his opinion Theo. Hewes and J. H. Drevenstedt are the two men entitled to the honor. No doubt Mr. Rigg has picked two good ones, but his choice would not meet with the approval of everyone by any means.

"Poultry" in its October number devotes considerable space to the pen of Edward T. Degraff. Mr. Degraff has a splendid article on showing R. I. Reds. He believes in actual photographs and not retouched ones and has the following to say regarding this: "The poultry papers are educating their readers up to an impossible standard by showing drawings or retouched photographs by the leading high-priced artists who manipulate the original photos beyond recognition."

Friends, here is surely a lot of truth. Many times we see photos that have been retouched so that even the owner of the bird would not recognize him. This is very misleading and to me looks very much like faked photographs. We realize it is hard to get a

real good photograph of a fowl, but when you do get one it is much more natural looking than any retouched photos.

Mr. Degraff also says: "It is useless to try and buy a Red guaranteed to win a first prize, as many times I have seen specimens entirely overlooked by the judge which were openly pronounced by the breeders present to be the best bird in the show, and I have seen unplaced males shipped direct from the show, C. O. D., for \$100 each and prove winners at their next show. So it is more or less of a gamble as to where the blue lightning will strike."

Another very true saying.

Quite often we see good birds unplaced, but still they can't all win and sometimes there is practically no difference and the judge must decide on one or the other, and he should not be censured if his ideas do not coincide with our own. There are many little defects that each bird has which we can not see when the birds are in their coops, and the only way to find them is to handle the birds, which the judge does, and which we do not do. It is often these defects, such as off-colored ear lobes, an off-colored feather or a stub, that make the change in the awards and I think many judges are unduly condemned by people when they should not be. Don't find fault with the judge. Don't be a kicker.

Nearly every judge is honest and wants to do what is right.

Mr. Degraff is much in favor of the oblong body of the Reds as he says it is one of the strongest characteristics of the breeds and one of the most important from a utility standpoint also. As many of our readers know Mr. Degraff was expelled from the A. P. A., a few years ago, and the poultry journals

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NOTE.—This Chart will be published each Month in The Feather during the year. Keep a correct record of your birds each month.

Artificial Incubation in France

BY EDWARD CONNER

The recent long spell of cold weather has been beneficial to this kind of hatching, and since necessity has no law, may explain why so many poultry farmers—despite their dislike for the method—had to fall back upon artificial incubation. Judging by the several good results obtained on the present occasion, opposition is less general than formerly. The conclusion to be drawn from this observation is that the purchase of an incubator is next to an absolute necessity, as cold weather retards laying; and as the production of chickens for the market at an early date is always the aim of poultry farmers, nothing remains but to invest in an artificial hatcher. By doing so, an early brood is secured, which will not interfere with natural hatching during warmer weather; meanwhile, income will be doubled. A case is recorded of a French farmer who relied upon artificial incubation; at the beginning of last spring he was able to boast of possessing by this means 100 chicks, to say nothing of others which were on the eve of being hatched.

A great deal of the apathy existing about artificial incubators is attributed to inferiority of their make. Up to the present but very few persons were able to speak well of them, though the ancient Egyptians had great faith in such apparatus. Whenever manufacturers are upbraided with turning out a faulty incubator they not only deny the soft impeachment, but retaliate by declaring that purchasers are too often ignorant how to work them properly. The quality of the eggs is quite as likely to be the cause of the failure of the experiment; if the eggs are bad the best machines, of course, are unable to improve them. It should never be forgotten that the whole secret of artificial incubation resides in employing only the freshest of eggs. The same result can not be expected from eggs eight or ten days old as if but two or three days old. In the case of foreign eggs, if the latter were not new laid at the time of packing, and incubated twenty-four hours afterwards—the regular period of rest after transit—upon a bed of grain, hatching will prove defective in consequence. After the question of freshness, come the strength and age of the reproductive agent, which are equally as important. Experience, for instance, has demonstrated that pullets of a pure breed under twelve months old will lay eggs yielding less fine and less robust chickens than those of hens aged from one to three years. The finest chicks are those hatched by hens from fifteen months to three years old. In the case of cross breeds and those enjoying full liberty, very fine and healthy broods can be expected from them when aged only ten months.

Hatching is considerably affected by liberty being accorded to fowls; the eggs laid by those allowed to roam in fields, and those restricted to the yard, are quite different—more so even than many imagine—no matter how well fed both may be. The best of nourishment never equals outdoor exercise; it is only when hens are given or allowed a free run that they are able to vary their food according to their fancy. Cross-bred fowls, not in the enjoyment of complete liberty, have been found to lay eggs much more suitable for the purposes of incubation than hens of a superior breed under the same condi-

tions. What is understood by select races are those entered for show competitions, with whom the question of perfect plumage and shape are indispensable; these qualities are only obtainable by avoiding cross-breeding. On the contrary, when the objects in view are either an increase of eggs, or the rearing of birds for the table, the races remain very rustic, all cross-breeding being tolerated, as form and plumage are immaterial in this case.

Is artificial incubation a success? One French farmer alleges that in the same apparatus he placed, on the 23d of February last (1912), thirty-one eggs belonging to cross-bred hens which had been kept in a yard, and allowed the run of the manure heap; twenty-nine eggs were from several races, comprising Dorking, Langshan and Faverolles, which had been confined to coops; thirty-four eggs, the produce of Faverolles hens that had travelled, and whose eggs had not been placed in the incubator until four days after their arrival. The following were the results obtained. The thirty-one eggs from cross-bred hens yielded twenty-seven chicks, all fine and robust; the twenty-nine eggs from the various three races enumerated (Dorking, Langshan and Faverolles) yielded ten chicks, four of which were deformed, and died three days after birth. The thirty-four other eggs from Faverolles hens yielded seventeen chicks of robust appearance. Among the first category of eggs, there were two clear, two embryos, which only developed a few days later, and one chick dead in the shell. In the second lot of twenty-nine eggs there were ten clear eggs, seven dead chicks in their shells, having consumed the yolk, and on the eve of coming out, as well as two embryos, from seven to ten days old. Finally, out of the thirty-four Faverolles eggs, there were four clear eggs, eight embryos, which lived only from eight to fifteen days, and five dead chicks in their shells, of which three had absorbed the yolk.

Experiment further established that cocks of noted breed suffered very severely from the long spell of winter, which accounted for so many clear eggs and weak embryos being discovered. Other eggs laid in the same yard, but which were not submitted to incubation until a later date, yield much more satisfactory results, though under the average of the yield obtained from cross-bred hens. These latter remarks illustrate very forcibly that it is absolutely necessary to secure the freshest eggs before attempting any artificial or even natural hatching. Good eggs will succeed in an inferior machine, but, as already pointed out, the best of incubators will prove unable to hatch inferior eggs.

Nevertheless, never hesitate to purchase a first-class machine, as a defective incubator will prove very disappointing, even when good eggs are provided—the results may vary from 40 to 60 per cent. Incubators provided with regulators are recommended as being the best for the money. Make sure, before purchasing such, that the regulator works well. The temperature of a good machine should vary but slightly throughout the whole incubating period—only from 1 to 1½ degrees, never more. Humidity should be rationally and uniformly distributed; the sections in which the drawer is located or situated ought to be properly ventilated while the eggs cool. Far

too many persons err under the impression that it is quite easy to construct a couveuse or incubator; they often find out their mistake when it is too late. The law in France is very severe upon dishonest tradesmen selling next to useless machines (incubators) at a high price. Purchasers are well cautioned not to buy too cheap an apparatus, either, which is equally wrong. Remember that satisfactory results can only be expected from first-class machines wherever made.

By way of conclusion let it be said that apart from the question of freshness of eggs and perfect mechanism of the apparatus, personal proficiency is equally imperative. Among the fundamental rules to be strictly observed by those who use incubators are earnestness, and ability to properly read the degrees indicated or registered by the thermometer, and not to neglect to turn the eggs at regular hours. Provided all these points are properly attended to, success will follow, and all-the-year-round chicks will be secured. Artificial hatching is not to be despised after all, which may explain why incubators have returned to favor with a sort of rush in France.

Chicken Chatter

Now what's the use?

Lots of it if you know how to use it. Pure drinking water in clean vessels is a great help to the fowls.

Drafts are the undoing of many fine birds.

It is the little things with poultry that make big things with the business.

Dry poultry houses with sanitation will do away with all thoughts of ventilation.

It's not so much the hen's fault that she doesn't lay as it is the keeper's.

A lazy hen is to be despised.

Don't forget that animal food of some kind is essential to egg production in winter.

How much time do you spend with your birds each day?

When one becomes discouraged it is high time to work all the harder.

A hen is made to scratch and the harder she is kept at it the better it will be for all concerned.

Don't let the droppings and filth accumulate simply because the weather is a little cold.

Even a bluff at doing right is better than not bluffing at all.

Good wholesome food makes the egg—give another thought to what you are feeding before the season is over for high-priced eggs.

Worry along with your work and the day is not far distant when you will hardly know what the word means.

If you hear a little sneeze—remember that larger sneezes follow if you don't stop the smaller ones.

When you don't get results, why not try some of the things that the other does who is making a success of the business?

Keep the floors well covered with scratching material.

A poultry house should never be placed in low, damp places, as such places are always cold and unhealthy for fowls.

Insanitary surroundings have a bad effect upon eggs.

Too much and too little moisture is responsible for many failures in incubation, and it is up to you to get the right moisture to make a success in hatching.

Eggs from sick and diseased fowls should never be used for hatching purposes. Strong chicks are only hatched from eggs from strong, healthy fowls, and it is no use trying to fool yourself otherwise.

The Feather

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Old Trusty Incubators and Brooders are made of finest California red wood—middle case of highest grade of asbestos—fire-proof insulation—out case, legs and all of galvanized metal; handsome, mottled finish. Guaranteed not to leak; cold rolled copper tank and heater; can't warp, swell, or open at seams; best thermometer; egg tester, trays, instruction book, ready to run. No worry; safety lamp on outside; regulator of the best. Every exclusive feature of The Old Trusty Incubator and Brooder are owned by Johnson, hence the low price on these high-grade machines. Guaranteed 75% better hatches. Send for our Big Book, gives information of practical poultry raising of 350,000 successful Old Trusty experience, in addition to Johnson's practical knowledge and experience in raising poultry on a larger scale. Worth many dollars to you, tells you how you can buy a 120 egg incubator and a 100 chick brooder for less than \$15.00. You need this book whether you buy or not. Send 10 cents, to help pay postage, to **HARRY D. MOORE**, State Sales Mgr., 1829 Baker St., Baltimore, Md.



Make Your Hens "Lay and Pay"

This is the slogan of the Poultry business, and if your hens do not lay they do not pay. Eggs mean dollars in these times of high prices and the more eggs you get the more dollars you will have.

It is Easy to Get Eggs

If you follow the rules of those who have made a success of the business. There is no reason why a hen should not lay in winter, if she is provided with the elements which make the egg. When these are provided she will produce the eggs.

The Successful Egg-a-Day Condition Powder

Contains these elements, when combined with the food, to make the laziest hen lay her share of eggs. It is a great Laying Tonic and conditioner of hens. Those who have tried it would not be without it—and now is your time to prove it. See the testimonials on back cover page of this number of The Feather. Send for our new free booklet, "Calendar of Poultry Keeping, 1912." Agents wanted. Regular size box, 1½ lbs., 25 cents; by mail, 45 cents. Five boxes, by express or freight, \$1.00. Sample size, ½ lb., 10 cents; by mail, 15 cents.

**The Successful Poultry
Remedy Company
WASHINGTON, D. C.**

The Breed or the Breeder

Which Is the Foundation for Our Success?

By OSCAR F. SAMPSON

I read some stories lately that set me to thinking that perhaps we have been expecting too much from our breeds. Mr. McCullough, in his department in the August issue of The Feather, said, relative to my article in June issue of this journal regarding the egg-laying contests: "I can't agree with Mr. Sampson that our egg-laying contests will hardly prove of practical value." Mr. McCullough then goes on to show that our egg contests are producing an increased demand for poultry that will produce results; or, at least, he probably means this when he says: "There is one thing certain, that is, they arouse a lot of interest in poultry," etc.

Now, I enjoy reading all of Mr. McCullough's stories because they are mighty good stuff. This is not the chief good of this writer's work, however; nor is the fact that these egg-laying contests are producing interest a sufficient result to show they will be of practical value to breeders and others. It requires more than interest in poultry to be of great value. Creating interest is a small start toward an end of practical work. I am not saying a revival in the poultry business isn't a good thing occasionally, but results count.

The more I see of the poultry business and the longer I keep poultry the more I believe it is up to the breeder to get results, as well as the breed. Of course there are many who talk this, but there are too few who are in real earnest, I believe. I came to this conclusion several years ago when I saw wonderful egg results from the mongrel birds kept by an Irish woman whose educational advantages had been nil and whose knowledge regarding poultry was quite as limited. Today I have in my neighborhood a family whose knowledge in general is pretty limited, some would say, but their birds are paying them well and their egg records are the best of any I know. Now, there is "a something" that these people understand about poultry that egg contests or other scientific and settled facts do not get. Nor can they tell it, or others find it. Is it simply "happenstance" or is there some simple little thing so many of us have overlooked in trying to climb higher?

One thing about our egg contests is worthy of careful notice. I called attention to it before. The same breeds show varied results in egg production in different contests. To me this seems conclusive proof that the breed isn't all to it, even if we allow for strains, etc., because the same strains have varied very much.

I am of the opinion that our contests are not going to be of practical value in aiding us to produce breeds that will produce more eggs, for this reason. That's what I mean by being of practical value to us. They will do much more than create an interest in the industry and will in some cases aid the breeder materially in building up his flock; but after all I am of the opinion the breeds will rely, to a greater extent, upon their breeder for better results than will the breeder upon the birds. I hardly believe contests can decide these points unless each breeder goes with his birds and remains with them throughout the test.

Another reason for poor results, I

believe, is the tendency toward restlessness. Our breeders are becoming pretty desirous of beating records, and are willing to go almost any limit to win. This desire has been the means of no end of systems and secrets being sold, and we have a wave of this restless spirit throughout the country today. No machine can do its best work under highest tension and the hen is a highly sensitive machine. A breeder who is constantly subjecting his birds to changes can hardly expect best results even if they are proving valuable to others. The poultryman of thirty years ago may thus secure today better results on his limited knowledge of present-day henology.

Clean the Incubator

A good plan is to thoroughly disinfect the incubator before each hatch. Wash out the whole of the interior of the machine with warm water with the disinfectant. Close up the door and run heated a day or so. Before putting eggs in for the hatch allow the machine to run heated at least one day with the door open, so that the machine will dry out thoroughly. This precaution will help along the hatch, and the conditions of the egg chamber will be pure and sweet.

The American Single Comb White Minorca Club will hold their annual meeting at Madison Square Garden, Thursday, January 2, 1913, at 2 p. m. A silver cup, cash specials, ribbons, and many other specials will be offered at this exhibit, which promises to be a large one. S. C. White Minorcas are gaining friends rapidly. Our Club Catalogue will be sent if you write. New members are coming in right along. Lovers of this breed are invited to join us. C. Augustus Raschke, Secretary-Treasurer, Kingston, N. Y.

The thirteenth annual show of the Fanciers' Association of Indiana will be held in Indianapolis February 3 to 7, 1913. Big silver cups from \$25 to \$100, good cash prizes, elegant special prize and sweepstake badges. Free Empire coops, special superintendents and the best judges in the country are some of the features of this show. Specialty club meetings with their special ribbons and cups will also make this show more interesting to you. We have the best transportation facilities of any show city in the United States. For further information regarding the best show in the country write to the secretary, C. R. Milhous, Indianapolis, Ind.

The English Indian Runner Club of America offers special ribbons to members for the best cock, hen, cockerel, pullet and pen at all shows that provide special classes for the English Pencilled Runners, to be judged in accordance with the club's standard. Every State having ten members is entitled to a State cup, to be offered at the show selected by State members. More than twenty of the leading shows, including Boston, Madison Square Garden, Philadelphia and Chicago, have already made special classes for this variety. This places the genuine Runners in a class by themselves. The Club Standard is ready for mailing and will be sent to all members free. The membership fee, including first year's dues, is only \$1. For particulars and application blank address the secretary-treasurer today. W. J. Patton, Glenview, Ill.

American Leghorn Club will hold its eighteenth annual meeting in Charlotte, N. C., during the Great South-Eastern exhibition Thursday, January 13, at 2:30 p. m., in the show room. The election of officers and new members for 1913 and other business of importance will be transacted. The club now has near 500 well known Leghorn breeders as its members and is the

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We want your permission to place this volume in your hands for **Five Days Free Examination. All Expenses to be Paid by Us.** Fill out the application form below and mail it to us with 50 cents, and we will send you this book on approval express prepaid.

Who Is Lewis Wright?

Lewis Wright wrote his first Poultry book thirty-five years ago. It was called "The Illustrated Book of Poultry." The present work, new throughout, thoroughly modern and up-to-date, is the natural fruit of his long experience in raising and writing about Poultry. He visited hundreds of model plants and interviewed the most successful poultrymen in all parts of the World to secure his data; and his book, first and foremost, is based upon Actual Experience. Mr. Wright was the one Poultry expert selected to write all the Poultry articles for the new 11th edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica, perhaps the greatest honor that could be conferred upon him.

What safer guide than Mr. Wright can you follow to success? Why not take advantage of Mr. Wright's experiences, his mistakes and successes?

The book has chapters on the following subjects and others: Poultry Houses and Runs—The Science of Feeding Poultry—Practical Management and Feeding of Fowls—The Egg and Sitting Hen—Artificial Incubation—Rearing and Care of Chickens—Poultry for the Table—Poultry Farming—Exhibition Poultry and Utility—Pedigree or Line Breeding—Practical Breeding and Rearing of Prize Poultry—Exhibiting—Judging—A chapter on each breed of chicken of all countries, besides chapters on Turkeys—Guinea Fowl—Pea Fowl—Ducks and Ornamental Water Fowl—Geese and Swans—Poultry Diseases and Vices—Vermis.

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The 50c you remit with the Application Form is simply an evidence of good faith; it is placed to your credit. The signing of the Form does not obligate you in any way to purchase the book. If you decide to keep it,

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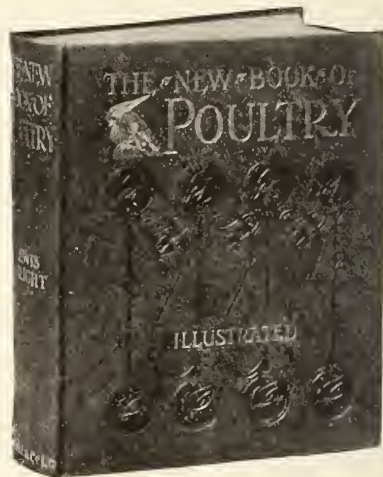
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before buying; and the present plan of sale is based upon our unbounded confidence in the very great practical value and usefulness of this work to you. An examination, moreover, will enable you to judge its merits far better than any description from us. But let us add a few details.

Special Offer To Responsible Readers:

Let us send you this great work on approval. We want you to examine it thoroughly before deciding. We want you to judge for yourself its great, practical, money-making value to you. The price is only \$8.50. Just send us 50c with the coupon opposite and you will receive the book, carriage prepaid. If after five days you don't want it, simply notify us and hold subject to our order. We will then refund your money. If you keep it pay us the balance \$1 a month until settled in full. [If you wish to pay us cash deduct 5%.]

The present stock of the work is limited, and it takes a period of time to reprint. May we ask, therefore, that you mail the Application Form at the earliest possible moment, so that you may avoid the necessary delay should we be out of stock later? The books will be shipped out on approval in the order of the receipt of the Application Forms.



Beautifully Printed and Illustrated and Strongly Bound

Forty-five full page plates in colors and black-and-white of this splendid work; all by J. W. Ludlow; and there are innumerable pictures throughout the text. Finely printed in a large, clear, readable type and bound in stout, durable cloth binding with lettering in gold; gilt edges on three sides. Size of volume 9 1/2 x 11 x 2. Weight, seven pounds.

The Feather Publishing Company, Inc., National Bank of Washington, Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:—I send you herewith 50c, for which kindly send me, carriage prepaid, one copy of Lewis Wright's "New Book of Poultry." It is understood I may examine this work five days, and if I do not wish to keep it I agree to notify you and hold subject to your order, and you are to refund my money. If I decide to keep it I agree to pay the balance of \$8 in monthly installments of \$1 each until settled in full.

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oldest of specialty clubs. Its 1912 Year Book is well worth a place on any breeder's desk. It is free to all Leghorn breeders who may be interested. This club is the club to belong to if you want your name ever before the buying public in every State in the United States, Canada and Italy. Membership fee \$1 with dues paid to July 1, 1913. Join today and go after the \$200 in cash and cups to be offered at the above meeting. Mr. S. H. Hackney, secretary, of Charlotte, N. C., will furnish application blanks to those who wish them, or write direct to club secretary, Norman L. Kisling, Bel Air, Md.

A great deal of enthusiasm has been aroused among Rose Comb Black Minorca breeders by the announcement that the club meeting of the International Rose Comb Black Minorca Club will be held at Boston. The Boston show management has offered a long list of specials, and personal members of the club have donated enough so that the cash prizes will greatly exceed \$100. If 200 entries are made the cash specials will amount to over \$200. Certainly no breeder of Rose Comb Black Minorcas can afford to miss sending a string of birds to this show or attending the show in person. There will be an experienced poultryman in attendance at all times to give his entire attention to this variety and see that all specimens are kept in proper condition for the judging and well taken care of in every way. The premium list of the Boston Show is now ready. Send to W. R. Atherton, 30 Broad street, Boston, Mass., for a copy and enter at least a few birds at this show. There is no show in America where even a small winning carries with it so much prestige as the Boston show. Be with us at Boston, January 7 to 11, 1913. The club meeting will be held January 10, at Copley Square Hotel. Lloyd C. Mishler, Secretary, North Manchester, Ind.

The Southeastern Poultry Association, at Charlotte, N. C., is planning a great show for January 10-14 inclusive. It is offering five thousand dollars in cash and a beautiful line of cups and ribbons and other specialties. The American Barred Plymouth Rock Club will hold its thirty-first annual meeting and club show with them at that time, also the American Leghorn Club will hold its eighteenth annual meeting at the same time. These clubs are offering two hundred dollars in cash and nine silver cups and several handsome ribbons. The N. C. Branch of A. P. A., the N. C. Branch of Single Comb White Leghorn Club, and the N. C. Branch of the American Buff Orpington Club and the Carolina Duck Club will hold their show with them.

They planned a big banquet for one night during the show for the visiting poultrymen, of which Gen. Julius S. Kerr will act as toastmaster. It is also expected to have addresses by Congressman Webb and Senator Overman. Mayor Bland will deliver an address of welcome to the visiting poultrymen and there will be short talks by Mr. Hook, President of the Greater Charlotte Club, and several other leading citizens. The club is expecting five thousand entries. Inquiries are continually pouring into the office of Sec. S. H. Hackney, and he feels confident that they will pull off the best show ever held in the South.

The poultry fanciers of the country are coming together in a "conflict" that is going to attract the attention of the whole nation. The "battle" will be fought in the big Armory Building, Louisville, Ky., Christmas week, De-

cember 23-28. It will be a "clash" between the North, the South, the East and the West. The "big guns" and the "little guns" will all be there, and the best "guns" are going to win, and a winning at the Great Armory Show means the best in the land. The victorious breeders can truthfully say they have "whipped" the entire country. The South-Central Poultry Association is sparing neither time nor money in making the Great Armory Show at Louisville, an annual national poultry event, of second importance to none. Here is one of the finest poultry exhibition halls in the world, located in the very heart of a city of a quarter of a million people, who are interested in poultry, and in a section of the country that promises to become the greatest poultry field on the face of the globe.

The Buffalo Poultry and Pigeon Club has installed a school children's poultry course, consisting of the Cornell lessons used at present in the rural schools of New York State. These classes are free to all boys and girls and are given every Saturday afternoon in the club rooms. Prof. James E. Rice, of Cornell, has extended us his cooperation. The first lesson took place September 28 and was conducted by Prof. Krum, of Cornell University. The attendance was very good and much interest was taken by the pupils as evidenced by their many questions and their bright answers pertaining to the lesson. The educational committee in charge of this work is Dr. S. A. Merkley, George Laws, Peter Mesner, William Gaude and Carl H. Falke.

This work is booming the membership of our club and instead of the largest of its kind it will be larger than any two clubs in this country. President of this club is Wm. H. Gaude, secretary is Carl H. Falke, headquarters at 35 Coal and Iron Exchange.

The Poultry, Pigeon and Pet Stock Association (this is the organizations that puts on the show) has set the date for the International Show for January 13-18, 1913. Large entries are anticipated because of the many requests so far for premium lists. The association is working hard and there will be about \$3,000 offered in money specials alone. The show will be held at the Broadway Auditorium, recently put up and which excels New York's Madison Square Garden in many ways. All inquiries regarding the show should be addressed to S. A. Merkley, 35 Coal and Iron Exchange.

The American Campine Club will hold its annual meeting at Madison Square Garden, New York Show, Thursday, January 2, 1913, at 2:30 p. m.

All interested parties are asked to join the club, no initiation fee being charged to those who apply for membership prior to January 1, 1913. One dollar paid before that date covers dues from date of payment to December 31, 1913.

At this show, which is held December 31, 1912, to January 4, 1913, the following special prizes are offered by the American Campine Club to members only or to those who send one dollar and application for membership prior to December 28, 1912:

SILVER CAMPINES.

- \$5 in gold, best cock, handsome club ribbon for best male.
- \$5 in gold, best hen, handsome club ribbon for best female.
- \$5 in gold, best cockerel, handsome club ribbon for best colored male.
- \$5 in gold, best pullet, handsome club ribbon for best colored female.
- \$5 in gold, best pen, handsome club ribbon for best pen.

CLASSIFIED ADS

PRICES FOR CLASSIFIED ADS.

Fully prepaid advertisements of twenty-five words or less inserted under this heading at the following rates:

One time	\$1.00
Three times	2.00
Six times	4.00
One year	7.00

Copy may be changed as often as desired, though we advise running a standard ad when possible, in order that buyers may become acquainted with it. Length of ad is not limited, but additional words will be charged for at the rate of 4 cents each for one insertion, or 2½ cents each for each insertion when run three times or more. Figures count as single words.

WYANDOTTES

REGAL WYANDOTTE—BARGAIN SALE of fine stock. Hens, \$1.50; Cocks and Cockerels, \$2 to \$10. Two 244 Egg Cyphers Incubators. Elwood Taylor, Berwyn, Ind.

WYANDOTTES—BOYD'S WASHINGTON Strain of Black Wyandottes are still winning. Stock and eggs for sale. Write for circular and prices. Geo. H. Boyd, 1255 Morse St. N. E., Washington, D. C.

WYANDOTTES—STOCK AND EGGS TO sell from winners of White Wyandottes at Washington, Warrenton, Richmond, etc. Circular giving winnings and prices sent on request. W. W. Thomas, Catlett, Va.

1,000 PURE DUSTON WHITE WYANDOTTES, raised on 50-acre farm, 20 yards, mated for eggs. Get prices on your wants. Allen Sechrist, Port Trevorton, Pa.

LEGHORNS

BREEDING S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS. Exclusive eggs for sale, \$2 per 15, or \$5 per 100. Satisfaction guaranteed. John M. Yenger, Gilbertsville, Pa.

ROSE COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—WINNERS at Madison Square, Buffalo and Rochester. Mating list and circular. Eight grand pens. Box F. Howard J. Fisk, Falconer, N. Y.

S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS OF SUPERIOR quality. An amalgamation of America's best blood lines. Mated right and bred right. Why experiment? Our stock is beyond that stage. Profit by our loss. Nice stock for sale, both young and old, that will start you on the road to success. Holiday Heights Poultry Farm, Sellersville, Pa.

WHITE ROCKS, WHITE AND BROWN Leghorns. Mating list free. Susquehanna Yards, Route 2, Wrightsville, Pa.

S. C. W. LEGHORNS—HEAVY LAYERS and vigorous stock. Eggs, \$2 per 50; \$3.50 per 100; \$15 for 500. John C. Beck, Middletown, Pa.

ROSE-COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—EGGS and baby chix for sale. Send for my list winnings. James G. Todd, Punxsutawney, Pa., Route 4.

ROSE-COMB BUFF LEGHORNS AND Columbian Wyandottes. Eggs for hatching. Stock for sale. Write to Harry A. Crumbling, East Prospect, York Co., Pa.

100 S. C. W. LEGHORN HENS FOR SALE (yearlings), Wyckoff and Lakewood strains, also 50 S. C. R. I. Reds, all at dead cheap prices to make room for young stock. I. E. Featherston, Au Sable Forks, N. Y.

ORPINGTONS

BLACK ORPINGTON WINNERS AT 7 shows this year, including Baltimore, Hagerstown, for sale. Also Whites. Eggs for hatching. R. D. Lillie, Takoma Park, D. C.

ORPINGTONS—WHITE, KELLERSTRASS, Black, Cook's. Stock for sale. (Rev.) E. H. Keator, Franklin Park, N. J.

ORPINGTONS—WHITE (BOTH COMBS) Single Comb Buff, Black. New York, Boston, Allentown. Hagerstown, Williamsport winners. Eggs. Baby chicks. Prices reasonable. Mating list free. Wm. Seidel, Box H, Washingtonville, Pa.

GENUINE KELLERSTRASS PEGGY—Crystal King Strain. Stock, eggs and baby chicks. Get my prices before buying. Write for mating list. J. R. Inskeep, Holly, Mich.

KELLERSTRASS STRAIN. WHITE ORPINGTONS. Eggs, \$1.50 per 15; \$7 per 100. Ed. Ledere, Central City, Iowa.

ROSE COMB BUFF ORPINGTONS—Golden Strain. Great size, color and exhibition qualities. Eggs, \$3 and \$5 per setting. Booklet free. S. D. Lance, Troy, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND WHITES

RHODE ISLAND WHITES. KRYSTAL Strain. Before placing orders send for our free, illustrated catalogue. It proves why Krystal strain is best. Bass Bros., Box 375, Marietta, N. Y.

RHODE ISLAND WHITES. EXCELLENT winter layers. Eggs from fine matings, \$2 per fifteen. Arthur J. Deex, Berea, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND REDS

YOU WILL NEED THE NEW RHODE Island Red Journal. Devoted to the Reds exclusively. Best advertising medium in the world for Red breeders. No waste circulation. Send 50c. now for full year's subscription to O. A. Studier, Editor, Waverly, Iowa.

HIGHEST GRADE SINGLE-COMB REDS. Color and shape unsurpassed. Eggs at \$3 per setting of fifteen. Wistaria Poultry Farm, Northfield, Mass., Geo. R. Witte, Proprietor.

ROSE COMB REDS (DE GRAFF STRAIN). Eggs, \$2.50 per 15; also pairs and trios, tested breeders or young stock, very reasonable. Navarre Poultry Yards, Toledo, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND REDS—BOTH COMBS. from finely selected birds, heavy laying strain. Eggs, \$1 per 15, or \$5 per 100. Hugh Brinton, West Chester, Pa.

IF INTERESTED IN STRICTLY FINE, Prize Winning, Rose Comb, R. I. Reds, send postal for my 1912 mating list. You won't regret it. Highland Farm, Herbert M. Tucker, Owner, Canton, Me.

BANTAMS

BANTAM SPECIALIST—BUFF, BLACK, Partridge Cochins and Light Brahmas. I ship on approval—circular free. Geo. C. Salmon, Port Dickinson, N. Y.

MOHAWK BANTAM YARDS. HIGH-Class, Exhibition Black Red and Red Pyle Games, Rose Comb Blacks, Partridge and Buff Cochins. Shipped on approval. Box B, Schenectady, N. Y.

JAPANESE, ROSE COMBS, FRIZZLES, Polish, Cochins, Silkies, Sultans. No circular. M. Hurd, Marshall, Mich.

BANTAMS, EGGS, 34 VARIETIES. SEND 2-cent stamp for circular. A. A. Fenn, Box 92, Delavan, Wis.

GOLDEN SEABRIGHT BANTAMS. Prizewinners. Will sell all my old birds cheap. Eggs, \$1.50 for 13. Fred Kintz, Seven Valleys, Pa.

HOUDANS

HOUDANS—NOTHING BUT HOUDANS. Eggs, \$2 per 15, from the largest Houdan breeder in Colorado—three yards. C. G. Walton, Ni Wot, Colo.

CHALLENGE CUP.

Handsome sterling silver, value, \$50. For best display of American Bred Silver Campines, points to count, cup to be won three times or twice in succession before ownership can be claimed.

GOLDEN CAMPINES.

\$5 in gold, best cock, handsome club ribbon for best male.

\$5 in gold, best hen, handsome club ribbon for best female.

\$5 in gold, best cockerel, handsome club ribbon for best colored male.

\$5 in gold, best pullet, handsome club ribbon for best colored female.

\$5 in gold, best pen, handsome club ribbon for best pen.

CHALLENGE CUP.

Handsome sterling silver, value \$50. For best display of American Bred Golden Campines, points to count, cup to be won three times or twice in succession before ownership can be claimed.

These specials are in addition to the regular premium offered by the New York Show Management.

It is urged that all Campine Breeders send some of their best birds to this show, which will without doubt have the finest class of Campines ever exhibited in this country or abroad. M. R. Jacobus, Sec. Treas., Ridgefield, N. J.

The next "Great Rochester Show," of the Flower City Poultry and Pigeon Association, Inc., will be staged at Rochester's New Exposition Hall, located at Exposition Park during the week of January 6 to 11, 1913. This brand new fire-proof hall contains some 45,000 square feet of floor space, on the ground floor, with nearly a glass roof and about 300 feet of it on the south side, giving practically daylight conditions on the inside; a condition so necessary and so much desired by the exhibitors. A modern heating and ventilating system is part of its up-to-date equipment. Cold drafts and hot spots are thus done away with, another very desirable feature. The hall is located within a few minutes' walk from the center of the city; three car lines pass the door, and one runs within a block, thus assuring the exhibitor of a large attendance.

The association will this year, for the first time, coop the show with their new sanitary, all-wire and metal coops. These coops are of an original design and are an inch higher than the regulation exhibition cage now on the market, affording that much needed head room for the larger varieties. A number of very attractive booths fifteen feet square have been contracted for, in which the poultry press, the supply houses and the specialty clubs, who will have National or State meetings at the show, will afford the attendance an opportunity of acquainting themselves with all that is new and best in the respective lines.

In connection with this year's show the Houdan Club will hold its Annual National Meet, as will also the Eastern Branch of the S. C. Black Orpington Club. The Sicilian Buttercup will entrust its future to this great show by making its debut here, holding its first Annual National Meet here. Messrs. R. N. Barnum, C. L. Jackson, H. M. Kenner, Frank G. Bean, J. Frank Van Alstyne, George H. Burgott, Dr. C. J. Andruss, O. W. Preston, R. D. Jolley, Theodore F. Jager and Edward Morris will place the awards. This grand battery of officials is a certain guarantee that nothing but proper conditions in the judging line will obtain.

The edition of the premium list will this year be limited to 5,000 copies and it behooves those desiring to exhibit

to put in an early request for one, as the 4,000 of last year were gone before we knew it and many had to be disappointed. John F. Tallinger, the secretary, whose new address is Box 544, Rochester, N. Y., has assured the writer that he will be glad to correspond upon matters pertaining to the show with any of our readers.

Show Dates

DECEMBER.

- Dec. 2-9—Dodge City, Kans. Ralph Burnett, Secretary.
Dec. 3-6—Keosauqua, Iowa. H. J. Wilkins, Secretary.
Dec. 3-7—New York, N. Y. Palace Show, L. D. Howell, Secretary, Mineola, N. Y.
Dec. 3-7—Reading, Pa. C. H. Glass, Secretary.
Dec. 3-12—Sewickley, Pa. A. C. Schlumpf, Secretary.
Dec. 4-7—Stroudsburg, Pa. E. M. Paxton, Secretary.
Dec. 4-8—Quincy, Ill. A. D. Smith, Secretary.
Dec. 8-13—Colorado Springs, Colo. J. R. Lowell, Secretary.
Dec. 9-14—Princeton, Ind. John W. Corder, Secretary.
Dec. 9-14—Vandergrift, Pa. Jas. McFetridge, Secretary.
Dec. 10-13—Buckhannon, W. Va. A. S. Watkins, Secretary.
Dec. 10-14—Lebanon, Pa. Samuel Black, Secretary.
Dec. 10-14—Philadelphia, Pa. Wm. H. Moore, Secretary, 437 Chestnut st.
Dec. 10-14—Springfield, Mo. T. E. Quisenberry, Secretary, Mountain Grove, Mo.
Dec. 11-14—Douglassville, Pa. Chas. G. Rhoads, Secretary.
Dec. 16-20—Jefferson City, Mo. W. W. Graves, Secretary.
Dec. 16-21—Geneva, N. Y. H. W. Closs, Secretary, Canandaigua, N. Y.
Dec. 17-20—Waterbury, Conn. John J. O'Connor, Secretary.
Dec. 17-20—Corning, N. Y. M. B. Coger, Secretary.
Dec. 17-22—Battle Creek, Mich. R. S. Lawrence, Secretary.
Dec. 19-22—New Orleans, La. R. E. Bruce, Secretary.
Dec. 23-26—Wapakoneta, Ohio. Phon Agne, Secretary.
Dec. 30-Jan. 4—Upper Sandusky, Ohio. I. R. Mankil, Secretary.
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Vol. XVI. No. 12
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SICILIAN BUTTERCUPS

The New Utility Breed Which is Gaining Great Favor
Among Poultry Fanciers Everywhere.

By ISAAC F. TILLINGHAST, Secy. American Buttercup Club

Perhaps no other variety of fowls on exhibition at the many poultry shows this season, wherever they have been shown, is attracting more public interest and admiration than the Sicilian Buttercups, and I trust that a few notes regarding them may prove interesting and instructive to many readers. Although new and practically unknown to many poultry fanciers the Buttercups are in one sense not a new variety, for they have been known and bred by a few in this country for nearly half a century. Therefore it is well to know that they possess very

the petals of a beautiful flower, and from this distinctive mark, as well as from its beautiful golden yellow body color, it derived its attractive and appropriate name, Buttercup.

But not being "standard bred" the few breeders who have stood by them all these years, wholly on account of their proven egg-laying qualities, have bred to different types, as best pleased them individually, hence there is quite a variation in the appearance of the different stocks to be found both in this country and in their native land. But in the future we shall no longer be

some black penciling is allowed, although objected to by some prominent breeders. Back golden buff mottled with black, distinct black spangles being preferred to penciling or gray mixed colors. Breast, lighter shade of buff, plain color, although some of the handsomest birds in this country have the black spangles running well into the breast. Ear lobes should be neither solid red nor white, but a combination of the two.

Like Golden Spangled Hamburgs, the coloring of the Buttercup is very attractive. In size and shape they somewhat resemble Brown Leghorns, but considerably larger, the matured hens weighing from four to six pounds, and the cocks from six to eight, but in another respect they differ to a greater degree from the Leghorn class, and that is in their entire freedom from the nervous, wild nature for which all Leghorns are so noticeable, the Buttercups being among the tamest and gentlest of all fowls. And it is largely on this account that they so endear themselves to all who make their acquaintance, and few there are who once give them a trial who do not retain them in preference to any and all other varieties.

As an instance of the almost phenomenal interest which the general public is taking in Buttercups, I need only mention the fact that since the organization of the American Buttercup Club (less than nine months), I have received over 1,500 letters of inquiry about them, and still I suppose that there are as yet thousands of poultry men and women in this country who have never even heard of them. And in this short time the Buttercup Club has grown to a membership of nearly two hundred, more than a score of them being as far west as California, and nearly every State in the Union being already represented.

As to actual egg records, one member recently reported that he has "a line of birds that has averaged, in flocks of forty, better than 209, each, for the year, from September to September;" and another substantiates a claim of having received an income of "nine hundred dollars from nine Buttercup fowls in nine months," a record which it seems doubtful could have been made by any other existing variety. But, of course, it is understood that his product was sold at prevailing Buttercup prices, and this is where the breeder of something which is coming into popularity, and in great demand, has an advantage over one who is producing something that may be plentifully found in all sections of the country.

Good Buttercup stock is still extremely scarce, and no doubt will remain so for a number of years to come, as every breeder of repute is taxed to his full capacity to fill his orders, and so has but little chance to increase his own flocks.

At the recent show of the Pittston, Pa., Poultry Association, it was acknowledged by all visitors that the Buttercups made the most attractive display of all, there being two grand display pens in front, two good breeding pens in the rear, and a goodly number of single entries scattered through the aisles, making a grand total of something over forty birds in this class. The magnificent silver cup, which was the main incentive for this fine exhibit, was won by the Secretary of the American Buttercup Club, one of whose prize cockerels, "Aristarcus," is shown in this issue. In view of all the above facts it should seem obvious to the most casual observer that this hitherto almost unknown breed has before it a great future, and that the words "Buttercup" and "Opportunity" are really quite synonymous.

About Perches

Perches are important furniture in the poultry house. Great care should be taken in their construction and arrangement, as any old pole nailed up will hardly do for the purposes intended. Perches should not be over eighteen inches from the floor, as most fowls injure their feet when flying down, thus causing bumble foot. Perches should be built removable, preferably not touching the sides or walls of the house. The poorly built perch is the route taken by lice and mites when the fowls are roosting. In locating the perch be sure that there are no cracks or crevices, or channels of drafts on the fowls, producing all sorts and kinds of trouble. Keep the perches clean and well saturated at the ends with kerosene or other lice killers, and do not allow filth to accumulate on them. All perches should be large, about 2x3 inches, with the 2-inch side up and rounded on edges. Place the perches level.

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A Prize Cockerel, "Aristarcus"—Owned by Isaac F. Tillinghast

distinctive line-bred characteristics, and unlike many of the so-called newer varieties which are continually being brought out, are not of mongrel origin, or made up by simply crossing other old and well-known breeds. Having been originally brought from the Island of Sicily, they are classed as Mediterranean, and are noted principally for their great egg-laying qualities, producing large, white eggs most abundantly at all seasons of the year. The most distinguishing feature of the Buttercup lies in the peculiar formation of its comb, which differs very materially from that of any other breed or class, being hollow or cup-shaped in form and surrounded by a circle of spikes, which remind one of

at sea, for soon after the formation of the American Buttercup Club (March, 1912), a committee consisting of the oldest and best posted breeders in this country was set at work to draft a standard, which has now been agreed upon by so many that its final adoption seems assured, which must lead to more uniform breeding in all sections. The accepted color of the plumage of the cock bird is dark red with black tail feathers and wing flights; shanks dark, willowy green, and with comb cup-shaped, with numerous points standing upright, and diverging from the center of the crown in a circle like the petals of a flower. The female is described as having neck hackle of golden buff color, in which

Something About Prices

By PLUMMER McCULLOUGH.

It is the season of the year now that many birds are changing hands and many new recruits are being added to the poultry business. Many are buying breeding birds, others utility birds and still others are buying exhibition birds to exhibit at their local shows with the hope of winning the blue ribbons. Strange to say these different classes or birds of different quality nearly all bring different prices. When you think about it this seems reasonable enough, but if we will look a little farther we will soon see that birds of the same quality from the yards of different breeders command different prices, so that a \$5 bird from one breeder may be a much better bird than you will get from another breeder at that price. In fact I know I have sold birds at \$3 each that were the equal of \$10 birds I have bought. It is true, however, that there can be no set rule as to the prices charged for different birds of about the same quality. It depends very much on the circumstances of the seller whether the price will be large or small. It also depends very much on the season, as a bird can be sold for a less sum of money in October than can the same bird if held till December or January, providing the bird is ready to sell and in a salable condition in October.

It is also a fact that a cockerel that is worth \$3 in October or November is worth considerably more if it is kept over and not sold till March. It takes feed for these surplus birds and you know that feed is about the same thing as money nowadays. A bunch of surplus cockerels take up extra house room through the winter and also take some extra care, and a breeder can not afford to keep them week after week for nothing. Besides these matters, the breeder runs some risk in having the cockerels frosted, injured from fighting and numerous other causes.

While everyone wants to get his birds as cheap as he possibly can, I really believe that people make a mistake in this way and often buy a bird simply because it is cheap. Only today a man I was talking to said he wanted to buy a couple of Barred Rock cockerels, but he was not wanting good ones. His reason for not wanting good ones was simply because he did not want to pay a fair price for them and he is a man that is financially able to buy good birds, and it would have paid him well in the end to have bought first-class breeding cockerels. Just what you can buy for a certain amount is a hard question to answer. As I said before it depends much on whom you are buying from. As a rule the very large advertisers who use advertising space by the page in all the leading journals and publish large attractive catalogues, are much higher in price than many of the smaller breeders. I am not saying they are too high priced, for often these are the very best men to deal with in the end, as you know then that your stock is all right because they have breeding back of them. Such stock, however, can not be bought at the lowest prices and they should not be. They are worth good, honest money. It costs considerable money to build up a flock or a strain of birds that will breed true to type, and you must have at least a fair price to make any profits.

Most of the large breeders do not sell male birds for less than \$3 each and these are simply "so-called" utility

birds. By this term is meant that they are sold or offered for breeding utility stock and not for breeding high-class show birds. Still, we find many beginners expecting to buy real classy stock for \$2 and \$3 each.

Personally, I do not think a man should expect much of a bird for \$2.

If a bird is of good size, strong, vigorous and healthy and well bred from a good strain of birds, and free from disqualifications, I think he is worth \$2 or more. For \$5 one can usually get a very good breeding bird, from the small breeders especially, but of course the larger breeders do not send out real high quality birds at this price. One large breeder says he can furnish a bird of "good color, good comb, a very stylish, attractive bird in every way for \$5." He does not state how good his color and comb may be, neither does he state how bad he is in shape and other important sections, but if he is not too badly "off" in other sections he would be about as good a bird as one could expect for that money from a large breeder.

For \$10 this same man says he can furnish a bird good in every section. Good comb, back and tail, and one that will breed some quality youngsters.

These birds are not what the large breeders consider exhibition birds, although in a small show or county fair they may win the blue ribbon if competition is not too hot. For exhibition birds they get from \$25 up—sometimes up a good piece—even to the thousand mark. However, it is not thousand-dollar birds I wish to speak of, but the kind that the average man can afford to buy. For \$25 you can buy a very high-class bird, one that will do to show at any local show and likely win for you. If I paid \$25 of hard-earned money for a bird I would want something that I was not ashamed of. Another thing that differs prices is this, real early hatched birds bring much better prices than the later ones, as they are needed for the early fairs and shows, and such birds are not plentiful at that time. A large breeder told me last September that he had not sold one of his March hatched cockerels for less than \$50. This was for birds good enough to show and win at the fall fairs. He would no doubt have a number of culs that would bring only ordinary prices. Then, too, cock birds also bring more than cockerels, and it is right that they should. You should not keep a bird over that is not a good one, and if he is a good one he is worth \$5 at least, and possibly many times this amount after you have wintered him over, carried him through the moult and have him in good condition when ready to sell. It is not always the large breeder that has all the best birds. Many times the small breeder has just as good stock and can sell you stock much cheaper. Many times have I known cracker-jack specimens change hands from the small breeders at \$4 or \$5 each. You don't have to pay the price of a horse to get a nice pair or pen of birds, although you can not afford to buy the dollar kind. Shun them as you would poison. Another thing I would like to mention is this, if you are not going in for exhibition purposes you need not buy show birds, get good healthy utility stock, make sure they can produce meat and eggs and lots of them. To be sure they will cost you from \$2 to \$4 each, but that

is not from \$10 to \$50 each. You want good stock no matter what line you intend to follow, but get stock that is bred along the lines you are intending to follow and pay accordingly. Now in conclusion don't write to a breeder and say you want a bird with good comb, good eye, good color, good shape in every section, good legs, good breast, back, tail, etc., and then say you want a cheap bird. Such birds are not cheap. They come high as a rule. It is disgusting to have a fellow want a perfect bird for a dollar, and really these are the fellows that are hard to please. The man that wants birds of quality, that knows quality when he sees it and is willing to pay a fair price for it, is the man that is easily pleased, providing you give him the quality he is seeking.

A Ten Weeks' Course

Poultrymen all over the country will be interested in the opportunities offered by the Extension Service of the Massachusetts Agricultural College. In the Ten Weeks' Course—beginning January 6—five hours each week will be devoted to lectures on poultry house construction, winter egg production, incubation and brooding, feeds and feeding, and marketing poultry and eggs. Demonstrations of practical work will be given on killing, picking, and caponizing, sorting and packing eggs for market, judging fowls for egg production, studying types and construction of incubators and brooders. The present equipment will permit demonstrations of various methods in housing and feeding. Practical work in running incubators will be given to as many as the equipment at the College will accommodate. For bulletins, giving full description of all the work offered in the 1913 Ten Weeks' Course, address The Director, The Extension Service, M. A. C., Amherst, Mass.

Winter Feeds

When feeding fowls for winter laying, a variety of feeds is far preferable to a fixed diet. Several mixtures of grains is far better than one. Such grain should be well scattered in the litter so that the fowls will have to work to find it.

The mash feed should be of much variety, as far better results come from such methods. Table scraps and kitchen waste make valuable additions to the mash. Bran and linseed oil meal are also excellent for such feeds. Steamed clover and alfalfa can not be equalled for supplying green foods in the winter. Vegetables may be fed raw. Green bones supply the elements for egg production, and when not oh-

tainable, beef scraps of some sort should be used. These suggestions should be added to your list and they may perhaps add to your success in producing eggs when eggs are high.

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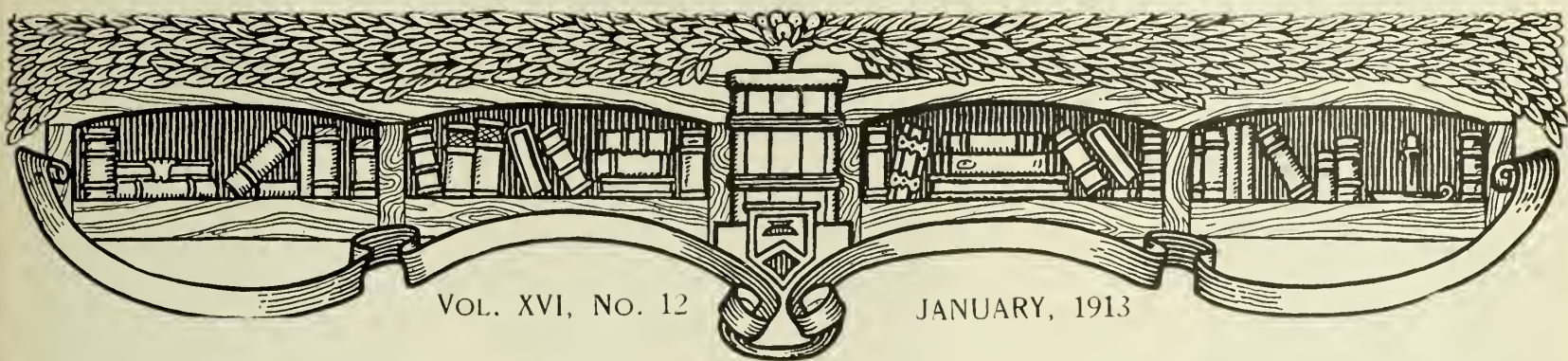
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Editorial Comment

We are very sorry to learn of F. W. Warner's death. Mr. Warner was connected with Poultry Times and was a very able writer, and his work on the Times will be greatly missed.

Self-reliance is the greatest factor in solving the problems of life.

Mr. U. R. Fishel is a candidate for reelection as a member of the Executive Board, I understand. Friends, here is a man that should be reelected; he is a hard-working man and has done more for the poultry industry in this country than any other man I could name. Mr. Fishel is a breeder, and it is just such honest, upright fellows as he that we need to run the affairs of the association.

Be hasty in some things, but slow to move in others.

A hen sits to lay and lays to sit.

Never in the history of poultry growing has there been such a demand as at present for incubators, brooders and poultry appliances of all kinds. All of the leading manufacturers are more than pleased with the business of the past year. Every one should realize that the advance in the cost of materials used in the manufacture of machinery must compel an advance in the price of all poultry appliances. Everything that we eat, drink, wear, or use in our homes has advanced in price. Poultry and poultry products have kept pace with these advances. There is no reason why every purchaser should not recognize these facts and willingly accept an advance on the price of machinery so valuable in poultry growing.

Motherless chicks are the most pitied orphans in the world.

The hen fever is as incurable as a mule's habit for kicking.

I see that the Standard is to be revised in 1915 again. Well, it may be all right, but it looks all wrong to me. The fact of the matter is, they have hardly gotten the 1910 edition right before the breeders yet, and it seems to me that it is a lot of time and money wasted to get the Standard all changed again in 1915. It costs the A. P. A. a lot of money to have the Standard revised, new illustrations made, etc., for the Standard and it really looks as if such work should stand for ten years. Personally, I would be in favor of general revision of the Standard once in ten years only—with such corrections from time to time as may be needed.

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On October 17, 1912, the New York and New Jersey Poultry Farms, Orangeburg, N. Y., purchased from Geo. W. Hey, Raceville, N. Y., all his Black Minorcas, both Rose and Single Comb, also his cuts, business, good will, etc.

These Minorcas are the famous "Northup Minorcas," purchased by Mr Hey from Geo. H. Northup & Son, May 21, 1910, without doubt the most famous stock of Minorcas in the world. Marcus Allen Northup, manager of the New York and New Jersey Poultry Farms, was formerly associated with his father in the ownership and management of this flock, and has since become noted as a breeder of high-grade Northup strain Minorcas.

This sale effects a merger between the two largest Minorca farms in America and places the New

York and New Jersey Poultry Farms unquestionably at the head of the Minorca industry. It is understood that Geo. H. Northup, founder of this strain, and originator of all true Rose-Comb Black Minorcas, will hereafter assist in mating the breeding pens for the New York and New Jersey Poultry Farms.

Cleanliness may be profitably practiced at all times.

An egg is not an egg when the chick is hatched.

I understand that Mr. Aug. D. Arnold is closing out his White Orpingtons and will breed Campines and White Faverolles in the future. Mr. Arnold was at one time the leading breeder in America of Buff Leghorns; he then took up Silver Pencilled Wyandottes and later Columbian Wyandottes. He was a leader in Columbians until a couple of years ago, when he discarded them for White Orpingtons. When he did this, it was D. Lincoln Orr, I believe, who said he thought Mr. Arnold was changing from Columbians to White Orpingtons because there was not enough push behind the Columbians. Whether this is why he is changing from White Orpingtons to Campines or not, I can not say, but no doubt Mr. Arnold will be one of the leading Campine breeders in America in a short time.

Never chase the duck because all ducks waddle.

The Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station calls attention to a disease which attacks chickens weighing over a pound. One farmer lost 100, and reports that his neighbors are troubled in a similar manner. The trouble appears to be visceral gout.

There are no symptoms previous to death, aside from the chick having an unusual appetite although poor in flesh. Upon examination the membranes lining the abdominal cavity and intestines are found to be covered with grayish slate-colored specks. The gout is caused by failure of the kidneys; the gray specks are crystals of uric acid. Probably the inactivity of the bird has much to do with the trouble.

The cure is one-quarter teaspoon of Epsom salts to each bird twice a week until the trouble ceases. As a preventive give a tablespoonful of the Epsom salts to a gallon of the drinking water once a week. The feed should not consist of corn alone, but some bran may be fed.

The ration at the agricultural station consists of wheat, cracked corn and a dry mash, consisting of bran, middlings and cornmeal, equal parts by weight, to which is added 10 per cent of beef scraps. By supplying plenty of green food, shade, fresh water and skim milk, no trouble is likely to occur.



Marketing and Breeding

Hints on Marketing Poultry and Eggs so as to Obtain the Best Prices—Breeding for High Records

By MICHAEL K. BOYER



NO matter how good stock we produce, if we do not market it in a neat and attractive manner, we cannot hope for the cream of prices. That word "fancy" we so often see in the market reports, means attractiveness of appearance as much as it means quality of goods. Market people are led by impressions, and if the goods look tempting the sale is made.

It always pays to stick to a good reliable commission merchant, and not be led by tempting offers made by new concerns. Many of these offers are not bona fide, and while the first few shipments will be promptly met, eventually there is a failure and you lose all.

Never make a shipment before writing your commission man, unless you have a contract or understanding with him to ship regularly each week. In the latter case he will be on the lookout for your goods, and will have a market for them before they arrive.

As a rule, Monday is a poor day to ship, as buyers are not so plentiful. It is pretty safe to ship any time between January 1 and November 1, but there is a risk of meeting an overstocked market during November and December. The writer makes it a rule never to market during those two months except on special order. The holiday trade does not seem to be equal to the tons of poultry that come in from all quarters.

Guarantee freshness in every shipment, and tag every carcass that leaves your place. This is the best plan to advertise, and your goods, being of prime order, will be called for in market.

Never market a fowl that shows the slightest suspicion of a cold, or that you have reason to believe is not in the best of health. Make it a rule never to send away anything that you would hesitate to place on your own table.

Quality rather than weight fixes the price of dressed poultry. One bad, poor or indifferent chicken in a lot often condemns the entire shipment.

Boxes or barrels can be used for shipping dead poultry, but the former are preferred. Be sure, however, that they are perfectly clean. Line boxes with clean paper, but never wrap the carcass in straw, cloth or paper. Place them breasts down, on layers of ice (if during warm weather), and carefully tuck the head of each bird under its wing. Packages of not more than one hundred pounds in weight travel best.

In each shipment place a memorandum of your goods, showing weight to the pair. Neither old cock birds, or cockerels with spurs come under this

heading, but have a special classification of their own.

In shipping eggs, guarantee freshness, and market at least twice a week. Never send out a dirty egg. With a moist rag lightly wipe off all dirt. Assort to color and size, and, if serving a retail trade, it will pay to have carton boxes, holding a dozen eggs each, and on this box have a guarantee printed. In this particular a New York poultry farm some years ago had an attractive card printed on their egg packages with the following words:

"Strictly fresh eggs carry with them their own recommendation, and need no argument to prove their superiority. Believing that the food a fowl eats affects the quality as well as the quantity of eggs produced, we feed clean, sound food, and of a considerable variety, and we claim for our eggs a finer, richer flavor on that account. We maintain

like good business methods, but we are opposed to it. It savors of dishonesty.

Pure fresh eggs put away in cold storage, or preserved in any other way, are bound to be stale eggs when marketed. Age stales them. When an egg is over a week old it is no longer fresh. The man who markets strictly fresh eggs has to compete with this inferior stuff, but if he establishes a reputation for honest goods, no inferior article can hurt his trade. We do not oppose "cold storage eggs" or "preserved or pickled eggs," if they are plainly advertised as such; but to label them "fresh" is where the trickery comes in.

Fair competition stimulates business; fraudulent rivalry cripples it. To encourage cold-storage eggs to buck against guaranteed fresh eggs, is about on par with oleomargarine vs. prime butter. The people want genuine goods, and are willing to pay for them.

BREEDING FOR HIGH RECORDS.

Prolificacy, coupled with stamina, is a worthy object to work for, but prolificacy should never be encouraged when it is known to jeopardize hardiness.

In order to have a hen average 200 eggs, in a flock, it will be necessary to have a number of individual layers that will reach 250 eggs or more, for each hen would not lay 200 eggs and then stop, and a great many would be somewhat short of that amount. It would be the same to secure a one-hundred-and-fifty-egg record; quite a number would, necessarily, have to lay 200 eggs each.

A number of years ago the writer argued that since experiments have been conducted all over the country with improved trap nests, it would develop that there are individual hens in many flocks that do remarkable laying. At that time an individual record of about 250 eggs was obtained. Since then quite a number of 200-egg hens have come into prominence, but we believe that the majority of heavy layers are nearer the 150 mark than above it.

While a judicious breeding for good records is to be commended, at the same time it is more advisable to have our hens average 120 eggs a year, a flock record, and remain in good, sound health, than it is to have the systems drained of vitality in the race to pass the 200 mark.

Something must be sacrificed in this race for champion layers. The illustration we used some years ago in arguing on this same subject will do well to repeat here: Look at the hardy-looking prize fighter, with all the strength and force imaginable—a perfect picture of health. Watch him when on the decline, and see how rapidly he col-



Feeding Time

cleanliness, order and regularity in the management of our fowls, all of which, we think, tends to a first-class product. We ship clean, fresh-laid, fresh gathered eggs from our own poultry yards direct to our customers."

Such a guarantee inspires confidence, and if carefully followed will establish a retail trade that should command at least five cents a dozen more for the goods.

In gathering eggs, the poultryman should at once remove them to a dry sweet cellar where the temperature remains pretty even. There should be no foul odors near the eggs, as they quickly absorb all impurities. It is remarkable how quickly an egg can be tainted through the shell.

Each year there is a clamor for recipes for preserving eggs, and there is no doubt that quite a lot of them are thus stored. Besides, the cold storage trade gathers up a lot of summer eggs to palm off in winter at fancy prices. That may all look



A Pretty Flock of Light Brahmas

lapses, and how prematurely he grows old. He has trained for one object, the development of strength, and in thus doing he sacrificed other parts or functions of the body.

It is precisely the same thing with the work of the hen. If she is trained for heavy egg production she will be weakened in some other capacity. To establish, then, this strain of phenomenal layers it will be necessary to inbreed to a certain extent, and this may be dangerous work in the hands of an inexperienced person.

If all the energies are to be put in the direction of eggs, what will become of the supply of meat? If we spend our food and attention in the direction of creating ideal meat carcasses, we certainly cripple our egg yield, and vice versa. Furthermore, if our hens are bred up to the top notch of egg production, surely the fertility will be hurt, and there will be weak and puny chicks.

Why not work for both eggs and meat, and thus have a limit? A better plan is to gradually increase the laying powers of a hen, so that she will average 200 eggs a year, without losing health and meat qualifications. This can be done by gradually building up to the mark, and not being in a rush for the supremacy. For the latter poultrymen are very apt to use "egg foods" and other highly-stimulating articles to hasten the work.

For years the plan of the writer has been to each year pick out his best hens to breed from. These are birds that not only show good characteristics of the breed, but also have done good laying as pullets. Trap nests have been the guide, and these are used, as a rule, from January 1 to June 1; and again from October 1 to the end of the year. Occasionally they are used in some pens the entire year, but that is done only where a special test is made of a new selection or a new breed. What we wish mostly to know is not so much how many eggs a hen will lay in a year, as how many she will lay in winter when the prices of eggs are the highest. From the latter stock we breed. During the summer months the traps are discarded, and only open nests are used.

Now, by selecting our best cold-weather layers and breeding from them, we each year increase our winter egg supply. There is more money in it, and it is a fact that our hens have, in consequence of our careful selection of winter layers, become poor summer layers, a condition we would rather have them in than to have a great year-round record and a poor constitution in consequence.

By the use of trap, and by careful selection of the breeding stock, any breed can be bred up to do prolific work. We tried the experiment with Brahmas, and as a result have a strain that is doing remarkable work. One bird in particular, as a pullet, laid 100 eggs from January 1 to June 1. As a two-year-old hen she did not begin laying until February 6, but laid 14 eggs from that date to the end of the month. During the thirty-one days of March she laid 21 eggs; in the thirty days of April she laid 21 eggs, and in the thirty-one days of May, laid 25 eggs, making a total of 81 eggs in 114 days.

We mention this individual case to show what progress can be made in careful trap nesting, and in a judicious selection of the breeding stock. If each year we gradually build up the records of our flock, and keep a close eye to the thrift and hardiness of the offspring, we can show that even the Brahmas—so generally classed as poor or indifferent layers—can be made to become prolific winter egg producers.

Now where the great danger comes in is this ambition to secure 200-egg layers as a flock. The stock is quite frequently forced by condiments,

meat and other articles of a highly stimulating nature. While it will in many cases produce the eggs, it will, at the same time, bring on early decline. But by working for a strong winter egg crop we are getting the bulk of our eggs at a certain season and the hen has the rest of the season to recuperate.

Another method adopted by some of those ambitious for great results is to hatch the eggs from one or more phenomenal layers, and mate up the offspring, brothers and sisters, and repeat for two or three years. We do not know of a more sure way to deteriorate the stock than by such inbreeding. It may bring good results the first year or two, but it cannot hold out, and the collapse will be as it is in the case of the prize fighter, which we have used as an illustration.

A FEW NOTES ON MARKETING.

Aim to have your shipments gilt-edged.

Roasting fowls of 10 to 12 pounds to the pair are always in demand.

The most attractive looking carcasses command the best trade; it therefore is important that care be taken in dressing stock.

Argument does not improve an unattractive carcass. Neither is anything gained by trying to convince a customer that his whims are ridiculous. A better plan to do is to cater to his ideas and thus be able to hold your customer.

The carcass most in demand is the one that is broad in body, deep and full in breast, legs well apart, and legs and neck rather short than long.

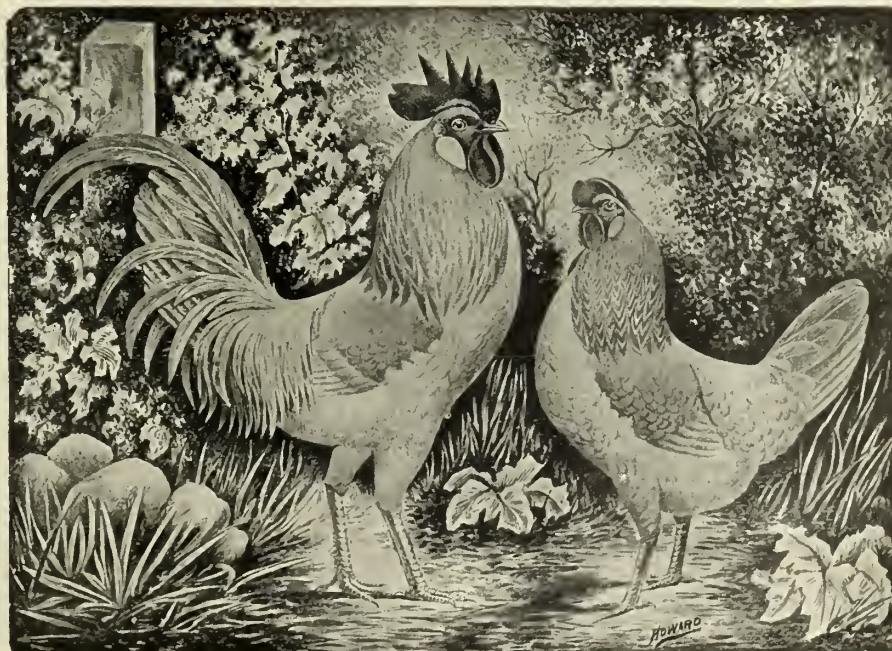
It is very important to carefully grade stock intended for the open market.

A few scrawny or badly torn birds in a package not only will spoil the appearance of the shipment, but will hurt the price.

Each grade of carcasses will sell better if kept separate from the rest.

Before packing make a careful inspection of each bird, washing the feet, removing clotted blood from the mouth, and also washing the head. All the breaks in the skin should be sewed up, using fine white thread for this purpose. A curved needle is more convenient for this work than a straight one.

In shipping live poultry to market, never place roosters and hens in the same shipment or crate. Such shipments are valued at the rooster rate, which is considerably less than that for hens.



Pair Buff Leghorns

How English Fawn and White Runners Won

By OSCAR SAMPSON

WHEN the Fawn and White Indian Runner Duck was given a place in the American Standard of Perfection many people considered that the requirements were for the so-called Light Fawn and White variety only, and hence these have since been called by many breeders "the American Standard Runner" and thus advertised. For this reason our shows have seldom had English Fawn and White Runners entered in competition until this season, and it's very doubtful if they would have been thus entered in 1912 if breeders of this variety had not organized a specialty club last April, and its members entered stock in several shows over the country, both in the general Runner class under the 1910 Standard, as well as in the English special class to be judged by the club's Standard in America. Thus 1912 has been a year of history and victory for the English Fawn and White Runner (which is now acknowledged to be the true and original Fawn and White Runner), and it has secured the distinction of being given a standard in America as well as England by which it is to be bred; it has also the distinction of winning in several shows under our American Standard of Perfection, that was by many supposed to debar it from competition entirely. Such, in fact, was the desire of many selfish breeders of the so-called American Runners, and at the St. Louis meeting, when the 1910 Standard committee met to consider new varieties of water fowl, the English Runner was thought to be disqualified by the requirements of the Standard. Two practical and intensely interested breeders of this breed attended this meeting, and, while the notice went out generally that only "Light Fawn" Runners were made standard, the men who were there in the English Runners' interests succeeded in placing a clause in the Standard that gives the English Fawn and White Runner absolute prestige over any other if the Standard rules and requirements are rigidly adhered to. Hence their victories this year. It only remained for the "English Indian Runner Club of America" to call attention of this to the judges in a few instances to secure their rights. Almost every judge was fully aware of the English Runner's rights under the 1910 Standard, and prizes were given and awards placed very satisfactory to breeders and exhibitors of this breed. Regardless of the fact that English Runners can and have won a majority of the awards in shows under the 1910 American Standard (just to prove they are worth it) the "English Indian Runner Club of America" has adopted the English descriptive Standard, and this will be used as the American Standard for this breed. This was done in order that we may have a universal Standard for this breed that will allow all breeders of this variety to compete with us in our shows, and we can breed and show with them. This is another decided advantage, and I believe we are the first club to endorse and the first breed to have an international Standard. I also believe this Standard will be accepted by the American Poultry Association with few, if any, changes for its 1915 Standard.



Indian Runner Duck

The club has taken the precaution to copyright this Standard, and the same is free to club members and 25 cents to others.

Regarding English Runner winnings at our 1912 shows. There is a goodly number of these, but I am only using space for a few of the most important ones. But before going into these victories, which are a climax to all we have won before in competition, regardless of the statements by prejudiced persons for selfish reasons, that English Runners haven't won places in competition with so-called American Standard Runners, I wish to briefly compare the standards of the two varieties. While I doubt if any breed of fowl so favorably received today in this country as a utility and fancy bird has had so many disputed qualities and so varied history, I am sure none is more worthy our consideration. Whatever the trouble has been in the past, or how radically the breeders' ideas may have differed, the strong point for their future lies in the fact that they now have been given a standard by which the great majority of English Fawn and White Runners will be bred in this country in the future. If our American Standard had been more carefully compiled in the past the breed would have suffered much less, both in and out the showroom. This condition has been due more to selfish interests among breeders than to fault of the committee who compiled the Standard for them, I believe.

For several years the Standard for Runners has been a disputed and much discussed question by breeders. In fact, it was so mixed, uncertain and plainly faulty that it has been revised and revised. Birds that have won today in the show have lost tomorrow. The type (shape) has been likened to a penguin or a Peter Pan, and the carriage has been asked to be Indian, English or American, as the interest of the breeder demanded. With these facts in view the only wonder is that the breed has survived at all, and it's a pretty good proof of their hardiness.

There is not now, and, I believe, never has been any serious doubt that the English Fawn and White (Penciled) Runner is the original of this duck. If this is true, it seems almost a sacrilege that it was cast aside for sports or crosses to be given Standard preference. One may as well have expected the original Silver Wyandotte to have given place to a later sport of the breed. Nor can the penciling of the original Runner be given as any excuse, because every poultryman knows there are no more beautiful and useful birds for both utility and fancy today than are most of the penciled varieties of the Standard. Certainly, the change to the present Standard Runner with its uncertain color requirements and general make-up was in no way a success.

Though recognized, the present Standard Runner has been severely criticized by judges, breeders and friends (as well as its competitors), for its uncertain and ambiguous wording and requirements. I have often heard the expression, "I would like to have seen the bird that description was made to fit," and our illustrations are quite as faulty. The worst of all is the fact that a Runner shall have legs set "well apart," and that Light Runners shall have dark heads and bronze green tails in drakes. What advocate of Light Fawns ever included that clause, or bred drakes to win by it? I hardly think color in Runners, even the original Runner, is so important that we should give it one-fourth of the entire 100 points, while shape in head and neck has only 15 points. And this in a two-color bird.

Under the English Standard for a three-color bird, color is given 25 points, while 30 points is given to shape of head, neck, etc. Is it to be wondered that birds bred to this Standard are better in type? Even though the American Standard gives a total of 61 points to shape and carriage, against 45 points for same in English Standard, I am also persuaded that these facts have much to do with the noted egg records of English Runners. This great difference in type is most noticeable in the showroom, and has as much to do with the success of the breed as the Standard itself. Past and present records prove this. Some very enthusiastic breeders of American Runners have carelessly and grossly misstated the showing of English Runners in the showroom as elsewhere, forgetting, perhaps, that these records are readily found and competent. Only a few days ago a breeder had quite an interesting article in a new Southern poultry paper calling the "dear reader's" attention to the fact that English Runners never had and never could win in competition with the Light Fawns. The article was written by a breeder who has been given credit for considerable knowledge of Runners and their history, but the absurd and ridiculous statements made in the article will place the author before the public on her value. All of us are subject to errors, but when they are caused by prejudice and bias there is really no end to them.

It is true that for several years few breeders of English Fawn and White Runners have entered birds in the shows, not because they were not bred, or because they could be beaten. The body of breeders believed there was no chance to win under

the interpretation usually given the Standard. Many judges even "disqualified" them, but not one can find a disqualifying clause for them in the Standard text. Closer observation and study found a clause whereby English Runners not only could be entered under our American Standard, but would win. A few judges even gave them places before the above fact was contended by English breeders. I have a few such cases in mind, but one example should be enough on that score. In 1910, soon after the new revision, the second place at Madison Square Garden was given to an English Runner. There were plenty other cases, and among them in smaller shows were first awards. Our chief interests are for 1912 winnings, and I am giving a few noted victories on this just as proof to those who may take those dreams, that English Fawns and White can't win, seriously. This year breeders have come out in numbers, confident of winning, and many of our larger shows had remarkable entries of English Runners. Some places they were two or three times more than the supposed Standard Runners in numbers, and the results have been most disastrous and disappointing to the other forces. This is the English Runner's first year of organization and show since the club's efforts have caused many times the usual entries of English Fawn and White Runners, and the results are victories in all sections.

In the past season Chas. Fraser, of New Jersey, entered his English Fawn and White Runners at the Camden show, and in hot competition won over both Light and Dark Fawn and White, and White Indian Runners. This alone would prove that

English Runners can, and do, win in the shows. At Mt. Holly the past fall Mr. Fraser again won with his English Runners. At our late Chicago show, which is one of the best in the United States, Secretary Patton of our club secured every first prize in Fawn and White Runners, and every second prize but one. His winnings (a score of 92 points) are: Ck., 1-2-3; hen, 1-3-4; ekl., 1-2; pullet, 1-2-3; pens, 1-2. It is only necessary to add that Mr. Patton was offered \$500 for his first prize pen there, which I consider the highest price ever offered in this country for a pen of Runners of any variety. He has booked all the orders he can spare for eggs from this pen at \$10 per setting, which is about as high a price as Runners of good quality have usually sold for per bird in this country. I mention these facts because of the absurd statements some breeders have made regarding the value of English Runners. Of course, sports from Runners or inferior stock never will command such prices; but pure bred Fawn and White Indian Runners from pure white-egg English stock will bring better prices than ever, and no one who has had stock worth feeding has ever been obliged to sell them for market. Every few days I receive letters from those desiring stock or eggs from White-egg English Runners. I get \$2 per twelve for my eggs, and couldn't supply the demand last season. I am preparing to furnish double as many this season, and surplus stock will be sold at not less than \$2.50 per trio, and some of my best at better prices. Nor do I fear that my stock will not be sold readily at these prices. I have tried both Fawn and White varieties, and if the so-called American vari-

ety had pleased me best I would have kept them. I am not knocking the Light Fawns, because I am perfectly willing every one who breeds them shall do so unmolested. They have their friends, and are entitled to them. So, also, have the English Fawn and White original Runners.

When it comes to showing under the 1910 Standard we will start on drakes. Neither the American nor English drake has penciling, so they are on an even footing so far as this is concerned. One may be a lighter shade of fawn, but the Standard doesn't require a light fawn. It does call for a bronze-green rump or tail, and a dark head in drake. This we absolutely fail to find among Light Fawns, Standard or not. Now, under those conditions, if both varieties are the same in type and carriage, is it hard to say which shall win? Not for any judge we have known. If, then, the English drake can win is it not a difficult matter for a judge to cut out the English duck from a place if she is worthy by shape and carriage? It surely is, and no judge is going to make any such precedence. But the strongest point of all is the fact that the English Fawn and White Runners show up better in type and carriage in competition than others. When the Standard is so worded that the English drake, by color markings, must win over Light Fawns with equal type and carriage, no judge will cut out the duck simply because our American Standard was copied after the English Water Fowl Standard that accepted "penciling" as a matter of course, and hence did not mention it.

The Cumberland White-Egg Indian Runner

IT is because we sincerely believe that the genuine Indian Runner duck will become in the near future of immense economic importance in the life of the people of the United States and Canada that we are tempted to offer a word of information and encouragement to those who are seeking a fowl that will truly pay its way.

Utility, or practical usefulness, must be the foundation of every breed that would claim permanence and be of real benefit to mankind. If this thought had been kept in mind would not the poultry world have been saved so much of wasted time and effort?

To an amazing degree the Cumberland strain of White-egg-laying Indian Runner fulfills all requirements of utility and a great future is before it. We have had preserved for us by a few faithful and courageous breeders this strain of Indian Runners, the purest descendants of the original English importations. Unimpeachable testimony comes to us from all sides of the great egg-laying qualities of this duck and the reader is assured on the authority of the Cumberland White-egg Indian Runner Club of the United States and Canada, that this strain has not been known to lay other than a pure white egg for some eight years at least. (Breeders of other kinds dare not make any such claim.) If such is the case (and it is true), here is a firm foundation for any breeder to start with perfect assurance.

As this time we shall only speak in a general way on the practical side of this duck business. Right now there is an insistent and growing de-

mand for stock and eggs, and as the business is only in its infancy, there should be every inducement for foresighted breeders to enter it. Of first importance is the matter of selecting the right kind of stock. The "abundant" future in store for the Runner Duck breeder will absolutely depend on preserving its heavy-laying, white-egg qualities, and this we state without qualifications, no matter what the Standard calls for or what breeders for color of feather may say.

We find that our Runner eggs hatch just about as well as hens' eggs, but in raising the young to maturity the duckling is so much easier to handle as compared to the chick that a comparison can hardly be made. Where losses are common with chicks, they are the exception with ducklings. Less heat is required and food is cheaper at all stages. Lice and mites need not be thought of scarcely with Runners, while on the other hand they destroy unknown millions of chicks every year.

Our Indian Runners mature in about five months (earlier than almost any breed of chickens) and begin laying beautiful, large, white eggs that look so good and have such a delicious flavor. The general opinion of those of us who know is that Runner eggs taste just the same as nice, fresh hens' eggs.

The equipment to raise our Indian Runners we find is far less expensive than with hens. Two-foot wire fences will hold them and plain sheds will give them ample protection. All the bother with roosts, dropping boards, nests, roup and lice-fighting apparatus is omitted. Our ducks are great foragers, practically taking care of themselves all

day during the summer and coming home to "roost" without fail every evening.

Indian Runner duck meat is of delicious flavor and fine texture, has the epicurean "canvas-back" taste, is firm and not greasy like the Pekin. We find there is a large call for such a duck in city markets, but the more profitable demand for breeding stock and eggs will keep the breeders employed for a long time to come.

A utility fowl must certainly be a good layer if he can be fully classed as such. Our Cumberland strain has made history along this line, and we believe that we are justified in stating that they will lay more eggs on an equal amount of cheaper food and with less care than any breed of chickens. Then they lay well in the fall when hens have closed down for their moult. There is absolutely no trouble in selling these beautiful white-shelled eggs for market purposes.

To sum up the claims of our Cumberland strain of Indian Runners: They will lay around 200 eggs per year with reasonable care; they are shelling out a good average of eggs when prices are high; they cost probably less to feed than chickens; eggs have fine flavor (not the old duck taste), pure white shell always; are larger than hens' eggs and bring better prices; the ducks do not set, have no lice or mites, no frozen combs, gapes or roup; the meat is of fine quality; they are easy to raise and care for. Isn't such a combination worth thinking twice about?

Next month we expect to be able to give some authentic egg records, personal experiences and other items about these ducks worthy of note.

Any questions will be gladly answered in these monthly articles.

NOTE.—This Chart will be published each Month in The Feather during the year. Keep a correct record of your birds each month.

TIMELY TOPICS

By PLUMMER McCULLOUGH.

In American Poultry Journal Dr. P. T. Woods, in writing about "Facts You Ought to Know About Corn," says in part: "The danger we have called attention to that lurks in heated, sour, moldy or musty corn is not overdrawn or an imaginary danger. It can be easily proven that corn in such a condition will produce bowel trouble and other ailments and will kill chicks and sometimes adult fowls. Bear in mind, though, that it is not the fault of the corn, but the condition of the corn. Good, sound, sweet, old corn that has been properly cured and kept is one of the very best staple foods for fowls and chicks that can be fed. Your grandmother and mine used to raise mighty fine chicks on a diet that was largely corn meal dough. Why can't you and I do it? The reason is we don't get the same kind of corn and corn meal. If we could get that sort of corn we could grow just as good corn fed chicks as were ever grown. Corn is a good food. Don't cut out feeding corn to all ages of poultry. Feed good, sound, wholesome corn. Cut out the bad corn and shun the green or blue moldy sort as you would poison."

Here is some very good advice from a good authority, and we believe it is exactly true. I can remember when corn meal was the principal feed for young chicks and, without joking, we did not hear anything about white diarrhoea or other bowel trouble in chicks as we do now. I remember seeing a fine flock of Leghorns that was raised on cracked corn. No other food was fed them, but, of course, they had free range and no doubt picked up lots of insects, and also had a good supply of green food. Nevertheless these chicks thrived amazingly, and it shows that chicks can be raised the old fashioned way yet. You all know that a fowl will leave any other kind of grain for corn. Nothing will take the place of good, sound corn, and when we know that fowls like it so well, why don't we feed more of it during the cold weather at least? Dr. Woods is perfectly right when he says to shun blue, green or moldy corn. Such corn is not fit to feed to poultry, and the same is true of wheat, oats or buckwheat. If any grain is spoiled, or musty, it is not fit for a poultry food and would be very dear as a gift.

Mrs. Andrew Brooks has a splendid article on English Pencilled Indian Runner Ducks in the November number of Poultry. Mrs. Brooks says: "Our love for fair play forces us to object to the variety (meaning the American standard Light Fawn and White variety) on account of the manner of its introduction, whereby it secures all the rights and privileges of a Standard bred fowl. We object because this position was gained at the expense of the real Runner—the English Pencilled (Cumberland) Indian Runner, which is the true and original type of the breed and which was thrown out of the 1910 Standard by the action of the Revision Committee in describing the Standard plumage not belonging to the breed but to the variety. The statement that color of eggs of the different types is the cause of the controversy is misleading and conceals the real issue; the issue is the substitution in the Standard of another duck, under the breed name Indian Runner, which thus poses as the type of the breed, and deprives the genuine

Runner of all its rights—even its name. The color of the eggs of any type is immaterial to the case, although the best strains of English Runners, the true type of the breed, lay nothing but white eggs. Our Cumberland White Egg Indian Runner Club stands pat for the white egg and recognizes the best descendants of the original Indian Runners of seventy or eighty years ago from County Cumberland, England, as the best all-around Runner of the present time, as most of the standard light fawn birds at first laid mostly grass-green eggs. We called attention to this as one way of showing what had happened to the breed. Our English Runners laid all white eggs, the English Indian Runner Duck Club standard calls for white eggs produced in large numbers. We said that green eggs were proof of impurity, but we also added that white eggs were not a proof of purity. In a letter from Mr. J. W. Walton, secretary of the English Indian Runner Duck Club of England, he wrote, 'Your statement relative to the green eggs was strictly true in the past, but at the present time, in the light of recent discovery, you can no longer say that all true Runners lay all white eggs and the statement needs modifying.' Mr. Walton and a fellow breeder obtained Runners from India, the root type of the original Cumberland Runners of so many years ago. Runners that were the purest in blood and best in type of any in the world, and he said that among them were layers of both white and pale green eggs; the ones best in type laid the tinted eggs. Also he said that the original Cumberland Indian Runners laid none but pure white eggs and if these were to be bred a century they would not produce a green egg layer."

Mrs. Brooks' article is one of the best I have ever read and I firmly believe that the original Cumberland English Pencilled Indian Runner Ducks, which lay none but pure white eggs, are the best Indian Runners of the present day. They are coming to the front as never before. Breeders of the Fawn and White even admit they are the best of the Runners. When such men as Dr. N. W. Sanborn take up the English Pencilled Runners in preference to the American Fawn and Whites it surely speaks well for the English Runners. Even men who are breeding the Fawn and White, such men as Judge J. C. Clipp, say that the English Pencilled Runners are the best ducks by far. Friends, there's no way out of it. They are the coming duck. They are on the forward move and now it is up to you to join the band wagon. If you are already a breeder you should join our club. Write to C. S. Valentine, Ridgewood, N. J., who is president, or G. K. Vanderbilt, secretary, Lyons, N. Y.

In the R. P. J., D. Lincoln Orr has the following: "Would you buy from yourself? When packing those birds that you have described and for which you no doubt have received a goodly sum, I ask, would you buy those birds from yourself at that price? That is the question that each of us should ask ourselves when we are sending birds to our customers. When orders are coming in pretty fast and stock is running pretty low, will our innermost conscience say, Would I or would I not

buy those birds from myself at that price? How would you answer it?" Friends, here is a big lot of truth and common sense. I believe many of us send out birds sometimes that we would not send out if we were buying them at the price. I don't believe many breeders mean to be dishonest, but when you get an order for a \$5 cockerel and find you have nothing but \$3 cockerels left, are you going to put in a \$3 cockerel and send it along to your customer and run the risk of it pleasing him? Really, it is one way of stealing. The proper and right thing to do under above circumstances would be to write your customer, stating that you were sold out of \$5 cockerels and you would be compelled to send him a \$3 cockerel, and return him the balance, or else return him the whole sum. He will thank you for your honesty and you will make future customers by so dealing.

Some of the poultry editors seem to think that the mail vote should be abolished in the A. P. A. This is very unreasonable and uncalled for. To my way of thinking about all the average member of the association gets is his right to vote at each election, and some of our editor brethren would even deprive our small breeders of this privilege. The annual election cost the association \$231.32, if I am correctly informed. Surely the association can stand this amount to give the members a choice of whom they want to hold the different offices. Not many of the members can attend the meetings, and it surely would be a step in the wrong direction to deprive them of their vote.

Farm Poultry is for shorter poultry shows. Regarding this matter it says: "Shorter shows and more of them would immensely benefit the poultry interests of this country. For financial reasons the large shows in the city must occupy a week. Even then bad weather may make the show run behind. But there is no need of having shows in small places run from three to five days. If there were more one and two-day shows we believe it would be better for all concerned, and we believe that a widespread adoption of the one-day rule would be the best of all. We firmly believe that the greater part of the smaller shows do hold too many days. However, I don't think it would be hardly possible to hold a one-day show, get the judging all done, ribbons all up and get enough of a crowd to let the association out safe financially. One day seems to be cutting it too short, but there is no reason for having over two or three days at the smaller shows. If it could be done I think it would be best to have the show start on Tuesday and end on Thursday. This would give the exhibitors a chance to get their birds back home before Sunday. The only objection to this rule is that most small shows expect the largest crowds on Saturday and Saturday night, and this plan would cut them out of this day and night. So for this reason it might be well for the show to start on Thursday or Friday and end on Saturday night. We need shorter shows, as it is too hard on birds to be kept cooped up in these shows so great a length of time, especially when it is seemingly unnecessary.


Poultry Keeper says: "Do not make unnecessary changes in the feeds given the winter layers. Let the variety come, perhaps, in the green foods. A feed of turnips today can be replaced tomorrow by cabbage. Mangels make the best all winter, daily green food. Hens never seem to tire of mangels. Cabbage is also good and can be fed early in the winter till the supply is

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Contains these elements, when combined with the food, to make the laziest hen lay her share of eggs. It is a great Laying Tonic and conditioner of hens. Those who have tried it would not be without it—and now is your time to prove it. See the testimonials on back cover page of this number of The Feather. Send for our new free booklet, "Calendar of Poultry Keeping, 1912." Agents wanted.
Regular size box, 1 1/2 lbs., 25 cents; by mail, 45 cents. Five boxes, by express or freight, \$1.00. Sample size, 1/2 lb., 10 cents; by mail, 15 cents.

The Successful Poultry Remedy Company

WASHINGTON, D. C.

exhausted. Carrots and potatoes can be used, but are not so well liked by the hens."

Personally we have never fed carrots, though we know that cabbage, mangels and any kind of beets are greatly relished by the hens in winter when green foods are scarce. Green food of some kind is absolutely necessary if we get the best results from our stock. Clover leaves that have fallen off in the mow are relished by the fowls if they are scalded. If they won't eat them without, you can mix them up with a cooked mash and feed them in this way.

Have you not bought that breeding male yet? It is time you had him in the pen now. At any rate don't wait any longer, but send for him at once. You can not expect to buy one as cheap now as you could in September or October, but nevertheless it will pay you to get a good male bird. As I. K. Felch says, the male is half the pen, and you must get a good one if you expect to improve your stock from year to year. Don't put this matter off any longer, but order your male bird at once if you have not already done so.

Link Orr says that Campines look so good to him that he is getting a pen of them from across the water. No doubt they are a good fowl, but it is my honest opinion that we have many varieties here that are just as good. The Campines have remained in the background a good many years and it took people a long time to find out their good qualities, but like many new varieties that are getting a "boom," they are coming fast now.

Mr. R. K. Baker has an article in R. P. J. on "The Cotton Front House in the Far North." In this article Mr. Baker says, "We have had the temperature go from zero down to 20 degrees, 30 degrees, 40 degrees, and a few times at 55 degrees, or 58 degrees. Sometimes for two or three weeks 20 degrees will be the highest point indicated. If the other conditions are right we can get eggs even at 58 degrees, though, of course, not so many, and if they are not gathered at once they soon freeze.

We prefer white fowls because when a few pin feathers are missed the fowl still sells well, besides we think the hawks, coyotes, badgers, skunks and other vermin being used to prey on the little prairie chicken pay less attention to white chicks than those of darker color.

Last year we raised some guinea fowls. The little fellows looked so much like prairie chickens that nearly all of the guinea's own flock was killed while those raised with a hen came through the summer safely."

The house that is illustrated by Mr. Baker is a house somewhat like the Tolman fresh-air house and surely this speaks well for the open front or fresh-air poultry houses. If they can use them successfully up in Saskatchewan, Canada, where it gets to 58 degrees below zero, we surely can make good use of them in our locality.

We are somewhat surprised to find that Mr. Baker thinks hawks and other vermin do not bother white chickens as they do dark-colored ones. Nearly everyone argues the question from the opposite side, claiming that they can see white chickens farther and easier than they can darker-colored ones. However, it would not stop anyone from taking up a white variety simply because they were afraid of hawks taking them. In my mind it is mostly hot air anyhow.

In the same paper Mrs. H. S. Noblitt has some "praise for the Lang-

shan." She says, "As egg producers his only rival is the White-Faced, Black Spanish." This, if course, means they are far and away ahead of all varieties of Leghorns, Hamburgs, Campines, to say nothing of the Reds, Rocks, Dottes and Orpingtons. It is too bad that some one has not found out that the Langshan is such a wonderful layer, excelling all other varieties. Mrs. Noblitt should have told the poultrymen of this country about this matter sooner and not kept this "secret" so long.

She also adds, "I think nothing can be handsomer than the White Langshan with its red comb and wattles, white plumage, blue legs and feet, showing the three colors we all admire—red, white and blue." You will now understand, friends, that to be a true patriot of your country you must breed White Langshans.

Laying jokes aside, the Langshans are a splendid fowl. Among the best we have for some purposes, but when it comes to saying that they excel all other varieties for producing eggs except Black Spanish—well, I'm from Missouri.

Thomas F. Rigg comes out in his Western notes in R. P. J. and says: "The endorsement of E. E. Richards for president of the A. P. A. by Editor Curtis, of the American Poultry World, is mighty pleasing to the very large number of association members, who for the good of the cause will use all honorable means to bring about the election of Richards in 1913. Let us pay him the deserved tribute of mak-

ing his nomination and election unanimous."

We believe Mr. Richards is a man competent to fill the office and I believe he is a gentleman in every way. As far as Mr. Richards is concerned we have nothing to say against him. We do think, however, that it is about time that the breeders of the A. P. A. be put in office occasionally, and let's not have it all poultry editors.

It is too much one-sided. I heard it hinted that Mr. DeLancey, of the Poultry Fancier, was going to frame up a breeders' ticket, and I hope he does. We have lots of breeders in this land that are capable of holding office as well as poultry editors. Let's have out a real breeders' ticket this year.

Proper Scalding

So great is the possibility of scalding the fowl improperly that dealers in some localities show an inclination to demand dry plucked fowls. As a means of overcoming this difficulty, C. K. Graham, of Connecticut, who has spent a good deal of time in studying the subject, offers these suggestions: Any aged bird may be scalded without seriously injuring its quality if it is properly handled; but owing to the large number of poorly dressed scalded fowls, the marketmen place a premium of from 1 to 2 cents a pound on dry plucked stock.

Boiling water may be used, but care must be taken not to leave young birds in the water too long, or the skin will cook, while with old fowls a little more

time may not do any harm. The head and shanks should be kept out of the water, as the scalding will discolor them and make them unsightly. Immediately after the bird is taken from the scalding water it should be dipped into cold water to stop the cook, and, as poultrymen say, to "plump the bird."

The bird should then be hung as for dry plucking, as no bird plucked on the lap or the table will have so good an appearance. If a scalded bird is exposed to a draft when being plucked or when cooling, the skin is likely to harden and become rough. It is because of these possibilities that dry plucking is recommended, as the condition of the skin to a great extent accounts for the high or low returns received.—Colman's Rural World.

Found Same Interesting

"I have just finished my last number and found it the same interesting little paper it has always been, and I hope when it grows it will continue to print good, helpful news and not fill its pages with a lot of get-rich-quick schemes and quack ads that generally characterize the average farm paper. Although it has but 15 pages I get more out of them than I do out of a lot of other books that I have subscribed for that have 60 to 70 pages. Pictures of three or four thousand birds take the place of good chicken talk and make them a billboard instead of a farm paper. I read each page as soon as I get it and really wish I had the next number." Richard Bowen, 1923 Park avenue, Baltimore, Md.

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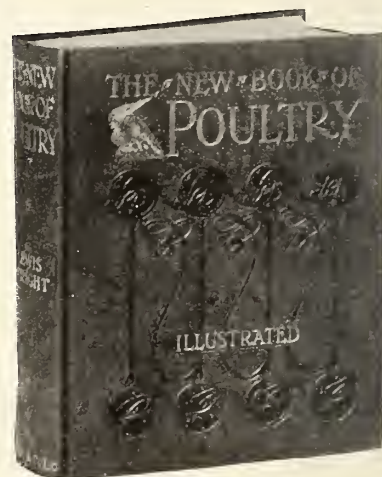
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Shows and
Associations

The Connecticut Branch, A. P. A., Official State Show for the Season will be held under the auspices of the Shore Line Poultry, Pigeon and Pet Stock Association in Guilford, Conn., January 29-31, 1913. Paul P. Ives, Secy.

The American Campine Club offers six handsome ribbons, one each for the best Silver Campine Male, best Silver Campine Female, best Silver Campine Pen; best Golden Campine Male, best Golden Campine Female, best Golden Campine Pen. Open only to members of the American Campine Club. M. R. Jacobus, Secy.-Treas., Ridgefield, N. J.

The English Indian Runner Club of America. Members of this club are hereby notified that our first annual meeting will be held at show of the "Unadilla Valley Poultry and Pet Stock Association," Sidney, N. Y., January 27-30, 1912. Meeting is called at 2 p. m., January 28, at the English Fawn and White Runner Section. We call meeting at this show because many of our members will have entries there, and it will thus be most available for the greatest number of our members and less expensive to us all. New York was the first State to secure the ten members for club cup, and is now well on the way toward her twenty members. We hope for a good attendance of other State members, as several important club matters will be brought up at this meeting. Let the president know if you intend coming. The association will do all possible to make it pleasant for us. O. F. Sampson, president.

Fifteen hundred and thirty-seven birds or 449 more than in 1911 were entered at the tenth annual exhibition of the Edmonton Poultry and Pet Stock Association, at the Provincial Fair Grounds, Edmonton, Alta., December 18 to 21. Johnson Brothers, of Langdon, received 158 awards, including twelve specials, with 169 birds. The Capital Poultry Yards, of Edmonton, Jackson Brothers, of Leduc, and Massey, of High River, also carried off a large number of prizes. The premium list included 80 specials, 300 firsts, 150 seconds, 100 thirds, 100 fourths and 100 ribbons for "highly recommended." The awards were made by George Wood, Winnipeg; H. A. Ross, Calgary, and Joseph Shackleton, Olds, Alta. The best represented sections were: Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds, Plymouth Rocks, Buff Orpingtons, Brown Leghorns, Polands, Hamburgs, and Asiatic breeds. Judge Wood, who has presided at every show in Edmonton, said that the birds were of better class than ever before exhibited in the Province, indicating, he added, that the industry is making progress rapidly. Much credit for this is due to work of the Department of Agriculture for Alberta, he said, in supplying growers with high grade stock and eggs.

A Poultry Derby

Gallant six hundred! This has no reference to the heroes of the Light Brigade, immortalized in history and in verse. The shades of Tennyson have fallen upon another six hundred, and feathered rivals at that.

Six hundred hens are to lay eggs against one another for all they are worth for one whole year. From a poultryman's point of view, it is to be one of the greatest tussles in the records of the fancy. The fact that it is a race run to the strains of slow music makes it none the less exciting, for the winners, spurred on as they will be, will be plainly in view right through the contest.

The Utility Poultry Club is promoting this Goliath struggle for the egg stakes, and, as there are no handicaps, every entrant faces the starter on equal terms. The Harper-Adams College at Newport, Shropshire, is the venue of the meet, and there are medals and money prizes galore to be won by the owners of the leading hens.

The site of this great flat-racing event is a field some 200 feet above sea-level. The field is nicely divided up into convenient lots, and every pen will be 200 square yards in area. In each pen there will be six hens, the noble six belonging to one owner, for an entry in this competition is constituted of six birds.

There will be open-fronted houses, with glass and wooden shutters; floors of rammed earth, soaked in disinfectant, on which scratching litter will be laid. One house and pen will be precisely the same in size, appointments and general arrangements as the 99 others, and there will be no question of winning the toss for the best position, either against the rails or with the wind.

The cuisine, excellent in its planning, will be strictly uniform. In the morning there will be a meal composed of one or more of the following viands: Ground oats, sharps, maize meal, barley meal, pea meal, bran, green bone, meat, boiled vegetables, biscuit meal, etc., a diet so diverse that the most faded appetite must surely be tempted.

In the afternoon and evening the foods will include wheat, oats, buckwheat, dari, hemp and maize. There will be a plentiful supply of fresh water, flint grit and oyster shell, but it is interesting to note that no condiments or spices are allowed. Incidentally it may be mentioned that the large, roomy, motherly hens comprising the heavy breeds will be differently fed from their lighter and more lisome rivals.

Obviously 600 of Britain's best egg-producers can only compete under a rigid organization. For example, each bird in a pen must be of the same breed, and must have been hatched not earlier than the January of this year. The entrance fee is £2 per pen, but to discourage faithless pullets, or those with the slightest blot on their escutcheons, the owner of a pen which does not during the competition lay 50 per cent of the average number of eggs laid by the first 10 pens will be mulcted in a fine of £1.

Neither the £2 nor the problematical fines represent much of the great cost of conducting this contest. The sale of the eggs is to assist matters, and there has been a grant from the treasury of £500 to add still further to the sinews of war.

At the close of the contest the race will not necessarily be to the swift—i. e., to those who have laid the most eggs numerically. "Eggs is eggs," of course, but eggs weighing less than two ounces are deemed to be worth 15 per cent less than two-ounce eggs, while those under one and one-half ounces will be spot barred, and will not count at all in the contest.

When the year has run its course the awards will be made according to the monetary value of the eggs laid.—Answers.



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WYANDOTTES

REGAL WYANDOTTE—BARGAIN SALE of fine stock. Hens, \$1.50; Cocks and Cockerels, \$2 to \$10. Two 244 Egg Cyphers Incubators. Elwood Taylor, Berwyn, Md.

WYANDOTTES—BOYD'S WASHINGTON Strain of Black Wyandottes are still winning. Stock and eggs for sale. Write for circular and prices. Geo. H. Boyd, 1255 Morse St. N. E., Washington, D. C.

WYANDOTTES—STOCK AND EGGS TO sell from winners of White Wyandottes at Washington, Warrenton, Richmond, etc. Circular giving winnings and prices sent on request. W. W. Thomas, Catlett, Va.

1,000 PURE DUSTON WHITE WYAN DOTTES, raised on 50-acre farm, 20 yards, mated for eggs. Get prices on your wants. Allen Sechrist, Port Trevorton, Pa.

LEGHORNS

BREEDING S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS. Exclusive eggs for sale, \$2 per 15, or \$5 per 100. Satisfaction guaranteed. John M. Yerger, Gilbertsville, Pa.

ROSE COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—WINNERS at Madison Square, Buffalo and Rochester. Mating list and circular. Eight grand pens. Box F, Howard J. Fisk, Falconer, N. Y.

S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS—GILT-EDGE quality, representing the strongest blood lines in America. For a limited time I will sell one setting of eggs for \$1.50; three settings for \$4. Have some nice pullets for sale, \$1.50 and \$2 each. Holiday Heights Poultry Farm, Sellersville, Pa.

WHITE ROCKS, WHITE AND BROWN Leghorns. Mating list free. Susquehanna Yards, Route 2, Wrightsville, Pa.

S. C. W. LEGHORNS—HEAVY LAYERS and vigorous stock. Eggs, \$2 per 50; \$3.50 per 100; \$15 for 500. John C. Beck, Middletown, Pa.

ROSE-COMB BUFF LEGHORNS—EGGS and baby chix for sale. Send for my list winnings. James G. Todd, Punxsutawney, Pa., Route 4.

ROSE-COMB BUFF LEGHORNS AND Columbian Wyandottes. Eggs for hatching. Stock for sale. Write to Harry A. Crumling, East Prospect, York Co., Pa.

100 S. C. W. LEGHORN HENS FOR SALE (yearlings). Wyckoff and Lakewood strains, also 50 S. C. R. I. Reds, all at dead cheap prices to make room for young stock. I. E. Featherston, Au Sable Forks, N. Y.

ORPINGTONS

BLACK ORPINGTON WINNERS AT 7 shows this year, including Baltimore, Hagerstown, for sale. Also Whites, Eggs for hatching. R. D. Lillie, Takoma Park, D. C.

ORPINGTONS—WHITE. KELLER-strass, Black, Cook's. Stock for sale. (Rev.) E. H. Keator, Franklin Park, N. J.

ORPINGTONS—WHITE (BOTH COMBS) Single Comb Buff, Black. New York, Boston, Allentown, Hagerstown, Williamsport winners. Eggs. Baby chicks. Prices reasonable. Mating list free. Wm. Seidel, Box H, Washingtonville, Pa.

GENUINE KELLERSTRASS PEGGY—Crystal King Strain. Stock, eggs and baby chicks. Get my prices before buying. Write for mating list. J. R. Inskeep, Holly, Mich.

KELLERSTRASS STRAIN, WHITE OR PINGTons. Eggs, \$1.50 per 15; \$7 per 100. Ed. Ledere, Central City, Iowa.

ROSE COMB BUFF ORPINGTONS—Golden Strain. Great size, color and exhibition qualities. Eggs, \$3 and \$5 per setting. Booklet free. S. D. Lance, Troy, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND WHITES

RHODE ISLAND WHITES, KRYSTAL Strain. Before placing orders send for our free, illustrated catalogue. It proves why Krystal strain is best. Bass Bros., Box 375, Marietta, N. Y.

RHODE ISLAND WHITES, EXCEL-lent winter layers. Eggs from fine matings, \$2 per fifteen. Arthur J. Deex, Berea, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND REDS

YOU WILL NEED THE NEW RHODE Island Red Journal. Devoted to the Reds exclusively. Best advertising medium in the world for Red breeders. No waste circulation. Send 50c. now for full year's subscription to O. A. Studier, Editor, Waverly, Iowa.

HIGHEST GRADE SINGLE-COMB REDS. Color and shape unsurpassed. Eggs at \$3 per setting of fifteen. Wistaria Poultry Farm, Northfield, Mass., Geo. R. Witte, Proprietor.

ROSE COMB REDS (DE GRAFF STRAIN). Eggs, \$2.50 per 15; also pairs and trios, tested breeders or young stock, very reasonable. Navarre Poultry Yards, Toledo, Ohio.

RHODE ISLAND REDS—BOTH COMBS, from finely selected birds, heavy laying strain. Eggs, \$1 per 15 or \$5 per 100. Hugh Brinton, West Chester, Pa.

IF INTERESTED IN STRICTLY FINE, Prize Winning, Rose Comb, R. I. Reds, send postal for my 1912 mating list. You won't regret it. Highland Farm, Herbert M. Tucker, Owner, Canton, Me.

BANTAMS

BANTAM SPECIALIST—BUFF, BLACK, Partridge Cocks and Light Brahmas. I ship on approval—circular free. Geo. C. Salmon, Port Dickinson, N. Y.

MOHAWK BANTAM YARDS. HIGH-Class, Exhibition Black Red and Red Pyle Games, Rose Comb Blacks, Partridge and Buff Cochins. Shipped on approval. Box B, Schenectady, N. Y.

JAPANESE, ROSE COMBS, FRIZZLES, Polish, Cochins, Silkies, Sultans. No circular. M. Hurd, Marshall, Mich.

BANTAMS, EGGS, 34 VARIETIES. SEND 2-cent stamp for circular. A. A. Penn, Box 92, Delavan, Wis.

GOLDEN SEABRIGHT BANTAMS. Prizewinners. Will sell all my old birds cheap. Eggs, \$1.50 for 13. Fred Kintz, Seven Valleys, Pa.

HOUDANS

HOUDANS—NOTHING BUT HOUDANS. Eggs, \$2 per 15, from the largest Houdan breeder in Colorado—three yards. C. G. Walton, Ni Wot, Colo.

How to Take Good Care of Good Eggs and What Kind of Eggs to Use

The tendency of a large number of poultry people is to produce as many eggs as it is possible to produce when they bring the best returns for their labor and feed consumed. Few, if any, ever stop to give the care and preservation a thought. The mania is to produce quantity at the expense of quality. The very opposite ought to be the rule, for quality eggs ought to bring the highest price, and they will if the right class of people can be reached. One of the most essential things one should do, if he wants to secure top prices for his eggs, is to give his business a little study. He will find that the longer he studies the subject the more he will learn about it. This means he should see what is needed to produce eggs of the highest quality. This is secured in feeding and general management of his fowls. Sometimes they do well on a certain ration. If this brings the desired results, well and good. If it does not, it should be changed as needed. A hen to do well should be a good feeder—one that hunts for her feed—and the attendant should see that she finds plenty of the right kind. Of course, she could be relied on to pay for her keep on corn, wheat, etc., just as her owner could live and do pretty well on an exclusive diet, say potatoes, for a certain time. She would even lay enough eggs in a year to do her duty creditably in the reproduction and perpetuation of her species. But to do extra well she should have a variety such as nature supplies in summer time. What she lacks most when she is confined is green and animal food, which go a long way toward securing quality eggs as well as keeping up her physical vigor. A good quality of beef scraps answers very well if green cut bone can not be procured. Turnips, beets and cabbage are fine to give the eggs a flavor and a good, firm yolk. Sprouted oats are fine, but to keep them from getting moldy requires too much care. Steamed cut clover and alfalfa are excellent and should be within reach of all poultry breeders.

The best scratching stuff is now chaff and finely cut corn fodder. It is wonderful how much of the latter the hens actually eat and relish. The "stall-fed" hen on an exclusive ration can not produce eggs that come anywhere near perfection. On our farm we provide nice large runs which are kept in grass all the time. And whenever it is possible the hens are turned out in the fields. How they do enjoy the change! And they pay well for it.

Now comes the taking care of eggs if they are to be kept for a considerable time. The first essential is to separate the males from the females and wait at least a month before storing the eggs. The second essential is not to allow light to strike the eggs. Light and heat start what is called a dark floater which eventually sinks and adheres to the shell and condemns the egg. All know that perishables keep better in a dark and cool cellar and an egg should be treated as such. Do not wash an egg for that opens the pores and lets in air. Sell or eat all the eggs that need washing. Have darkened nests and gather the eggs several times a day. Pack them in six, twelve or fifty dozen tight-made cases with the small end down. This is all important for it preserves the air chamber which should be on top. My wife stored thirty dozen last September and what are left now (four

full months) look and taste almost fresh as newly laid eggs. The yolks are firm and the albumen is not watery. Of course, they are for table use in the family only. If put on market they should be sold as storage eggs. A few will show a floater in spite of all the care one can give them. Such eggs are laid by a hen which is about to stop laying. One or two are left in the egg-oviduct too long and the heat condemns them before they are laid. Last spring we bought a few dozen to make up a certain shipment. The producer swore they were fresh and we took him at his word. The customer, when he made a social visit, said that he could pick ours out without the aid of an egg-tester. You can not fool an expert and as your reputation goes with your eggs, you should know what eggs you guarantee. Too much can not be said on this subject.

We are anxiously waiting to see what can be done when the parcel post is in effect. It should be a revolution in shipping eggs and dressed poultry direct to the consumer. This would do away with all middlemen and reduce the transportation charges to a minimum. We predict that more eggs and poultry will be sold and that it will bring the producer and consumer into closer relations. It will also make the former more careful what kind of stuff he ships.

The Australian Egg-Laying Contest

Mr. D. F. Laurie, poultry expert at Adelaide, has kindly sent us blank applications for the contest to be held there during the year ending the 31st of March, 1914, and extends a hearty invitation to American breeders to enter the competition. In his letter he says:

"I beg to forward herewith copies of entry forms and regulations for the forthcoming egg-laying competition to be held at the Roseworthy Government Poultry Station. I trust that you will kindly give prominence to this invitation to your readers to enter pens for competition. I feel certain that if representative pens are sent they will do well, and further, if my advice is followed I think good business will result. I recommend the shipment of nine (9) pullets from which to select the competing six (6), the three others are for reserves in case of accident or death. In addition a cockerel should be sent and a price fixed per bird, or for the lot. Considerable numbers of pure-bred poultry have been imported into Australia of late, chiefly, however, of exhibition type. Laying strains of White Wyandottes, Orpingtons and Rocks, also Rhode Island Reds and other breeds of good type and appearance would, I am sure, sell readily at payable prices. I should also like to see what your laying strains of Leghorns, Minorcas, etc., would do under Australian conditions. If the pens are forwarded, freight paid to Port Adelaide, the rest of the business will be attended to by this department. Full particulars as to age, strain, etc., should be forwarded to me so that all inquiries can be attended to.

"Thanking you in anticipation,

"I am, etc.,

"D. F. LAURIE,
"Poultry Expert and Lecturer."

"Kindly discontinue all of my advertising from now until I write you again. Am entirely sold out and The Feather has been a great factor in leaving me in this condition. However, I expect to begin advertising again in the December issue." Lynn C. Townsend, Weedsport, N. Y.

ANCONAS

ANCONAS—CINCINNATI AND COLUMBUS Ohio State Show, First Prize Winners. Stock, eggs, baby chicks. Write for free catalogue. Evans & Timms, Box W, Malta, Ohio.

ANCONA COCKERELS, \$3.50 UP; CATALOGUE for a stamp; egg orders booked. R. W. Van Hoesen, Franklinville, N. Y. Editor Ancona World, President Ancona Club.

BARRED ROCKS

BARRED ROCKS—A FEW SETTINGS from select pullet matings of the Rudy Strain of Barred Rocks: \$2 per 13. R. L. Feldman, 3 Hamilton Row, Hagerstown, Md.

BUFF ROCKS, COLUMBIAN WYANDOTTES. Heavy trap-nested layers. Springfield and Rochester winners. Good breeding cockerels, \$3.00 each; extra choice, \$5.00. Eggs and month old chickens, 13 years with Buffs, 7 with Columbians. Oren Hanes, South Colton, N. Y.

WANTED

WANTED TO HATCH CHICKENS—1,200 incubator capacity. Correspondence solicited. The Feather, Box "S," 630 La. Ave. N. W., Washington, D. C.

CORNISH

DARK CORNISH STOCK AND EGGS FOR Sale, also Buff Turkey Toms. Circular free. M. J. Van Eman, Box E, Elgin, Ohio.

CORNISH, WHITE AND DARK; HEATHWOODS, Black-Reds, Tornadoes and Blues at farmers' prices. Circular free. Single rates. C. D. Smith, Fort Plain, N. Y.

FAVEROLLES

ENGLISH SALMON FAVEROLLES AND Lakenfelders. Going west, must sell all my prize winners at a price that will surprise you. C. J. Swanson, Sycamore, Ill.

BUTTERCUPS

SICILIAN BUTTERCUPS—BROWE Strain. "Everlastingly laying big white eggs." 15 eggs, \$3; 30 eggs, \$5. Rev. E. H. Keator, Franklin Park, N. J.

EGGS

EGGS AND BABY CHICKS FROM MY grand prizewinners. White and Brown Leghorns, Anconas, Houdans, Brahmas, Reds, Rocks, White Minorcas and Rose Comb and Single Comb Black Minorcas. Eggs, \$1 per 15; chicks, 12 to 15 cents each. Stamps for replies. Louis Waher, New Galilee, Pa.

SIXTY EGGS, \$3; 15 \$1; TWO MEDICATED nest eggs with each order. 26 varieties. Poor hatches duplicated at half price. 26 years as breeders. Circular free. Whitney & Son, Triangle, N. Y.

CHICKENS, EGGS, 22,000 CAPACITY. Barred, White and Buff Rock and Reds. 15 years through culling and selecting for health, vigor and great laying qualities. Safe arrival guaranteed. Brooks Farrar, South Easton, Mass.

EGGS FROM LARGE BLACK COCHINS. Buff Frizzles, Crested Ducks and Sebright Bantams. All varieties Fancy and Utility Pigeons. Stamp. J. H. Sell, Jr., Hanover, Pa.

I AM BOOKING ORDERS FOR EGGS. Best strain of S. C. White Leghorns. A few White Orpington Cockerels for sale. Address Mrs. Dora Brown, 4027 Belle Ave., N. Forest Park, Baltimore, Md.

EGGS FOR HATCHING—LIGHT AND Buff Brahmas, \$2 per 15. If you want good winter layers try mine. C. C. Arnold, Millers Falls, Mass.

DUCKS

COOK'S PIONEER WHITE-EGG STRAIN of American standard fawn and white Indian Runners. Fine males reasonable. Eggs: 12, \$5; 24, \$8; 50, \$15; 100, \$30. Circular. Irving E. Cook, Munnsville, N. Y.

POULTRY SUPPLIES

SAVE LABOR AND MAKE YOUR POULTRY pay by using Jocoy's self-feeder. Circular free. J. A. Jocoy, Towanda, Pa.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—RABBIT, FOX, COON, Opossum, Skunk, Deer, Bear, Wolf Bloodhounds, Setters, Pouters, Pigeons, Ferrets. Free list. Brown's Kennels, York, Pa.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE FOR FIREARMS, Boston Bull Dog or Airedale Terrier—One Seneca view camera, 4 x 5, as good as new, never been used but two months. I. E. Featherston, Au Sable Forks, N. Y.

FOR SALE—40 ONE-YEAR-OLD S. C. W. Leghorn hens and 50 March and April hatched pullets. Mrs. C. W. Dering, Charleston-Kanawha, W. Va.

GAMES

PIT GAMES—SIX STRAINS OF GOOD ones; winners wherever shown. Plenty of birds. Circulars and testimonials free. W. C. Byard, Walnut Hills, Cincinnati, Ohio.

DUCKS

INDIAN RUNNER DUCKS—OUR STOCK has just swept the decks in Texas, the judge calling them the best exhibit of ducks he has seen in Texas. The director of the Texas Station has recently written me for Runners. Texas is awake! How about the rest of the South? Circular with photo from life; also club prospectus. Prices from three to twenty-five dollars. Get my 75c, 150-page Runner book. C. S. Valentine, 3, Ridgewood, N. J.

FERRETS

I HAVE FOR SALE FERRETS, ENGLISH Beagle Hound Pups, Toulouse Geese, Indian Runner Ducks, Rose-Comb Buff Leghorns. J. M. Martin, Delamont, N. Y.

PIGEONS

WHITE RUNTS ARE OUR SPECIALTY. They are one of the largest of all varieties of pigeons, measuring from 36 to 40 inches wing spread. Are pure white in color and great breeders of large, white-meated squabs. No other variety compares with them. Our lofts contain some of the finest specimens in America. Prices, \$10 to \$35 per pair, depending upon age, size and quality. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. No catalogue. Green & Kaple, Box 40, Waterville, N. Y.

MISCELLANEOUS

NO MORE SCRATCH GRAINS NEEDED when feeding HEN-O-LA DRY MASH. Write for booklet and prices to Hen-O-La Food Co., P. O. Box A-24, Newark, N. J.

90 VARS' POULTRY, DOGS, FERRETS, Pigeons, Hares, Etc. List free. Colored description; 60-page book, 10c. J. A. Bergey, Telford, Pa.

BARRED ROCK BREEDERS—SEND 50 cents for National Barred Rock Journal, the only monthly magazine issued wholly in the interests of the Grand Old Breed. Also the logical advertising medium for Barred Rock breeders. W. L. Robinson, Pnb., Union City, Mich.

CHOICE FIRST-CLASS FANCY PIGEONS. Chickens, Eggs, every variety. Printing of all descriptions. Common pigeons wanted. Write wants, enclosing stamp. Ville, Marletta, Pa.

TRAINED AND PARTLY TRAINED Beagles, \$5.50 up. Beagles and Collies, pups, \$2. Trial B. P. Rock, W. Orpington stock, \$2.50 up. Empire Farm, Brodhecks, Pa.

FOR SALE—VERY FINE WHITE HOLLAND and Bronze turkeys, young and old, breeders and show birds. A Dominiques, Rocks, Reds, Wyandottes, Leghorns. Birds and prices right. 35 years in business. Expert advice on many lines of the poultry business at moderate cost. Let me put your plant on a paying basis. George Enty, Mosgrove, Pa.

STANDARD-BRED S. C. BROWN Leghorn hens, \$1.25; select, \$1.50; choice breeders, \$2. Trio S. C. Buff Orpingtons. Byers strain, \$5. I. R. Ducks, both kinds. Cook and Blanchard strains, trio \$5, young or old. German Bare-Necks, trios or single birds; prices on application. M. H. Winebrener, Walkersville, Md.

SILVER AND GOLDEN CAMPINES. Sicilian Buttercups. Write for card. Three everlasting layers. E. H. Adams, Outwood, Pa.

OSTENDORF PET STOCK MAN, BALTIMORE, Md., buys, sells and exchanges dogs, puppies and pets, all kinds. Wanted 1,000 Guinea pigs, rabbits pigeons, etc.

CAPON TOOLS

CAPONS bring the largest profits—100 per cent more than other poultry. Caponizing is easy and soon learned. Progressive poultrymen use **PILLING CAPONIZING SETS**. Postpaid \$2.50 per set with free instructions. The convenient, durable, ready-for-use kind. Best material. Wealsomake Poultry Marker 25c. Gape Worm Extractor 25c. French Killing Knife 50c. Capon Book Free. G. P. Pilling & Son Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

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The Only Original Dry Chick Feed and The World's Standard.
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Breeder of the greatest, egg-laying, Exhibition Strains of
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Barred Plymouth Rocks
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Eggs for hatching and birds for sale. Send for our 1912 Annual Catalogue and prices.

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Box F, Randleman, N. C.

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Try a card in the next number and be convinced.

BABY CHICKS

We are now booking orders for spring delivery Kellerstrass \$30 Matings of Single Comb White Orpingtons and White Leghorns; also imported Mammoth Imperial Pekin ducks. Mating list on request. C. L. PARKHURST, Mansfield, Pa.

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STOCKS LONG LAST PROOF
Costs No More Than Netting yet will last five times as long. Made of extra heavy double galvanized, Rust Proof wires. No top or bottom boards and less than half the posts required. Chick Tight—Bottom wires only 1 inch apart. We have 150 styles, also Lawn Fences and Gates. We can save you money. Send for Catalog. The Brown Fence & Wire Co. Dept. 26 Cleveland, O. WE PAY THE FREIGHT

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THE world's greatest illustrated book of Poultry, Turkeys and Water-fowl, with 117 full-page plates of the fowls, feathers and detailed markings.

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Unlike any other Poultry Book and everybody interested in Poultry should have a copy.

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OPINIONS

OF GREAT PRACTICAL VALUE.

THE PERFECTED POULTRY OF AMERICA contains a detailed description of all standard breeds and varieties of poultry, with illustrations showing correct type, together with feathers from the different sections, so arranged as to make it easily understood and of great practical value. It should find a ready sale among breeders of standard-bred poultry.—Successful Poultry Journal, Chicago, Ill.

We congratulate you on the high quality of the book, THE PERFECTED POULTRY OF AMERICA, both as to subject-matter and illustrations. This book can not help but prove of value to those who are interested in standard-bred poultry.—Poultry Keeper Publishing Co.

A CREDIT TO THE POULTRY INDUSTRY.

I consider THE PERFECTED POULTRY OF AMERICA the best of its kind that has been put on the market. The printing and binding are worthy of extra notice. In fact, such books are a credit to the poultry industry, and this volume is sure to interest all kinds of poultrymen, the old as well as the beginner.—The Michigan Poultry Breeder, Battle Creek, Mich.

FINDS IT INTERESTING.

THE PERFECTED POULTRY OF AMERICA is an attractive volume. It is beautifully printed. Wherever I turn its pages I find it interesting, and the many illustrations show that your artist, Mr. Graham, has spent much enjoyable study in his part of the book. I believe that this book will enjoy a popular sale among those who collect poultry literature.—F. L. Sewall, Buchanan, Mich.

THE BEST ISSUED TO DATE.

THE PERFECTED POULTRY OF AMERICA is a book which will be of great value to poultry fanciers, being a concise, illustrated treatise of the recognized breeds of poultry, turkeys and water-fowl. It is not exactly a standard, but is a detailed description with illustrations in detail, which enables the novice to form a correct idea of the form and feather of any breed. The illustrations are superb. Personally, we think the book is the best that has been issued to date.—California Cultivator.

ANY ONE CAN TELL REQUIREMENTS.

THE PERFECTED POULTRY OF AMERICA is the title of the latest book from the press of The Feather Publishing Co., Inc., Washington, D. C. As its name suggests, it treats exclusively of the breeds and varieties of poultry recognized by the American Standard of Perfection. It describes and illustrates all standard breeds and varieties of poultry, ducks, geese and turkeys. It gives the history of each variety, including its origin and development, enumerates its special characteristics and describes its shape and color. The subject-matter is by T. F. McGrew and Geo. E. Howard, and the illustrations are by Louis P. Graham. Each of the parti-colored varieties is represented by a drawing of the male and female, which are surrounded by sample feathers from different parts of the plumage, so arranged that any one can tell from the illustration what the requirements of under-color and surface-color are for each section of the bird. The book contains over 250 pages, and is finely printed on excellent stock—Poultry Herald, St. Paul, Minn.

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Everyone interested in poultry—the man with a big poultry farm as well as the man with a few hens—should have Greider's Poultry Book. It contains 200 pages of just the kind of information you need, 30 handsome colored plates showing pure-bred stock. The book is full of practical help, gained through actual experience on the largest poultry farm in Pennsylvania. Write for it today. Price, 10 cents.

THIS BOOK tells how and where to buy stock, eggs, incubators and supplies at reasonable prices. Don't miss this chance.

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We have both breeding and quality exhibition eggs for hatching at reasonable prices.

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High Class Single Comb White Leghorns, Barred Plymouth Rocks and Giant Pekin Ducks.

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Producing Great Results

The Successful Poultry Remedies

are producing great results and are fast winning their way to the front

USED WITH GREAT SUCCESS

January 23, 1912.

Successful Poultry Remedy Co., Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen: I am sending you an order for some remedies for poultry. I have tried your Roup Cure with great success. I bought it through The Feather, where I got some books, etc. I am writing to you this time as I would like to handle your supplies for my customers and would like to have your agents' rate of discount. I am enclosing check for remedies listed below.

Very truly,
EDW. S. LAMBRITE,
Erwinna, Pa.

LAYING LIKE IT WAS SUMMER

January 21, 1912.

The Successful Poultry Remedy Co., Washington, D. C.

I have used the Successful Egg-a-Day Condition Powder and have found that it will do all that it is recommended to do. Before I commenced using this Powder my chickens were poor and sickly and would not eat. But now they are fat and healthier looking than any we ever had before, and they don't seem to be able to get enough to eat. They are now laying as regularly as if it were summer.

MRS. E. V. BIRCH,
East Falls Church, Va.

COMES UP TO RECOMMENDATIONS

November 11, 1911.

The Successful Poultry Remedy Co., Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen: I thought that you might like to know of my success in using The Successful Egg-a-Day Condition Powder. I purchased a large package of same on Saturday, October 28, 1911, and began feeding the Successful Formula for laying hens. During the month of October I received 9½ dozens of eggs, and the first ten days of November, after using your Egg-a-Day Condition Powder, I received 16½ dozens of eggs from the same flock of hens. I can safely say that your Egg-a-Day Condition Powder comes up to your recommendation.

MRS. R. E. HARRIS,
Palmer Place, Bladensburg Road, D. C.

We want you to try the Successful Poultry Remedies because we know you will be pleased with them. These Remedies are straight, bona fide formulas that are made to suit the disease for which they are intended, and each has a virtue of its own and a mission to perform. They are not "cure alls," but genuine preparations that will produce results. We have just issued a valuable booklet, "Calendar of Poultry Keeping, 1912," which we will be pleased to send you without cost. This booklet contains much valuable information, and gives formulas for "Feeding the Chick from the Egg to Maturity." Send for it. If your dealer does not have these Remedies in stock send direct to us and we will supply you. The most liberal terms to agents.

The Successful Poultry Remedy Co., Washington, D. C.

The Successful Poultry Remedies

When All Others Fail Give the Successful Remedies a Trial

The following list of Remedies are to be recommended and guaranteed for the diseases which affect Poultry and Pigeons, and a trial will convince you of their merits.

SANOGEM is a Stainless and Successful Disinfectant and Vermin Exterminator. It Kills Lice, Mites and Vermin on Poultry, Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Swine. For Home and Farm use. Sample size, 25 cents; by mail, 35 cents; Regular size, 50 cents; by mail 60 cents; Large size, \$1, by freight or express.

THE SUCCESSFUL LICE POWDER, a Positive, Harmless and Effective Remedy for Killing Body Lice on All Kinds of Poultry and Live Stock. Regular size, 25 cents; by mail, 40 cents.

THE SUCCESSFUL GOLDEN EGG TONIC is a Valuable Tonic for Toning the System, Keeping Fowls Well, and Increasing Egg Production. Regular size, 50 cents; by mail, 60 cents.

THE SUCCESSFUL EGG-A-DAY CONDITION POWDER is a Reliable and Effective Tonic for Increasing Egg Production. It is a Cheap, Safe and Valuable Tonic, and Helps Fowls to Lay Eggs when Eggs are Wanted. Sample size (¼ lb.), 10 cents; by mail, 15 cents; Regular size (1½ lbs.), 25 cents; by mail, 45 cents.

THE SUCCESSFUL ROUP REMEDY is a Tonic for Use the Year Round. It is Especially Valuable for Roup, Canker and Colds in Poultry and Pigeons, and Splendid Preventive for All Kinds of Disease. Regular size, 50 cents; by mail, 55 cents; Large size, \$1; by mail, \$1.15.

THE SUCCESSFUL DIPHTHERIA REMEDY is a Remedy for Individual Treatment of Fowls Suffering from Diphtheria or Diphtheritic Roup. Regular size, 50 cents; by mail, 60 cents.

THE SUCCESSFUL CHOLERA REMEDY is to be Highly Recommended for Fowl Cholera, and for Suppressing Contagion. Regular size, 50 cents; by mail, 60 cents.

THE SUCCESSFUL GAPE REMEDY gives Life to Chicks. A splendid Treatment for the Cure of Gapes in All Domestic Poultry. Regular size, 50 cents; by mail, 60 cents.

THE SUCCESSFUL SCALY-LEG REMEDY is an Excellent Remedy for Treating all Fowls Affected with Scaly Legs. Regular size, 50 cents; by mail, 60 cents.

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